

Test Regulations

Verein für Deutsche Wachtelhunde

- VDW -

Founded in 1903



In force as of 01-01-2007

The Test Regulations as adopted by the regular General Meeting Fürth-Nürnberg in 1911 constitute the basis for the Regulations herein.

Amendments and supplements to the Regulations were adopted by regular General Meetings in München in 1918; in Wellenburg in 1922; in Nürnberg in 1923; in München in 1926; in Stuttgart in 1928; in Nürnberg in 1930; in Stuttgart in 1933; in Mannheim in 1934; in München in 1948; in Lohr in 1949; in Würzburg and in Hagen in 1962; in Schwarzenfeld in 1972; in Pfronten in 1982; in Dinkelsbühl in 1986; in Hauenstein in 1988; in Kirchzarten in 1992; in Dippoldiswalde in 1996 and in Bad Blankenburg in 2006.

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Chapter I

General Guidelines

Paragraph 1 Must and Should Definitions

The following test regulations contain must and should requirements. A **must** requirement has to be adhered to unconditionally and in all procedures; a **should** requirement can be deviated from in exceptional cases.

Paragraph 2 Entry Requirements

(1) Only Deutsche Wachtelhunde that are registered in the VDW Breed Book or in a breed registry of a foreign DW breed club recognized by *F.C.I.* (Fédération Cynologique Internationale [World Canine Organization]) may enter these tests.

(2) Juvenile Tests, Versatile Ability Tests, Versatile Ability/Utility Tests and Utility Tests may be repeated only one time. The rules of the Association (*JGHV*) Test Regulations on Water, General Guidelines (see Appendix), shall be adhered to.

(3) Handlers must document the possession of a valid hunting license. The local test director may allow for exceptions only (provided they are permissible under the respective German State Laws) on breeding or hunting related grounds. In this instance, the handler must show proof of a liability insurance policy for the dog.

(4) The organizing VDW Regional Group may limit the number of dogs in a test. This must be indicated in the test announcement. Admission to a certain test is not a right.

(5) Dogs with infectious diseases may not be admitted under any circumstances. The handler must report to the test director prior to test commencement acute health conditions of his dog, and report bitches in heat. It is within the discretion of the local test director to allow or deny test entry.

Paragraph 3 Test Announcement

(1) Each Regional Group must announce its test dates by June 1st and December 1st respectively.

The VDW Test Director shall publish the test dates in the VDW Newsletter and the VDW websites at least one month prior to the test.

The VDW Test Director can agree to holding additional tests when necessary due to unforeseen circumstances. The reasons for these tests must be given in writing.

(2) The test announcement must contain the date, location, test contact address, entry fee, number of dogs to be admitted, blood species and method of track laying (where applicable), and the deadline for entry.

(3) Tests must be conducted without interruptions on one single day or consecutive days. As an exception, a test may be divided into two segments. Both segments may not be more than 14 days apart. The local test director must inform the VDW Test Director immediately in writing of this procedure and state the grounds therefore.

(4) The Association Tests listed in Paragraph 80 must be announced in the official JGHV Publication (*Der Jagdgebrauchshund*) in accordance with current regulations. They must also be submitted in writing to the JGHV Registrar.

Paragraph 4 Entries

- (1) Entries must include
- a fully completed entry form
 - one copy of the pedigree reflecting all updates
 - proof of entry fee payment to the test contact person

With the submittal of his entry, the handler acknowledges that he will abide by the Test Regulations. Entries after the deadline may be rejected. When late entries are admitted, the local test director can double the entry fee. The entry fee may be higher for non-club members.

The handler will be informed immediately if his entry is rejected. All admitted handlers will be informed in writing of the meeting place and time at least one week prior to the test date.

(2) The party signing the entry form is responsible for the correctness and completeness of the data entered. Intentionally making incorrect statements on the entry form will result in the exclusion from the test, or the test results are declared null and void without reimbursement of the entry fee. VDW reserves the right to additional action, such as disciplinary action or criminal prosecution. The test office has the right to reject entries; it must state the reasons for the rejection.

(3) In the event of no-shows or when a dog is disqualified prior to test completion, the entry fee is forfeited for the benefit of the organizing Regional Group.

(4) Original pedigree, current rabies vaccination record and hunting license, or proof of liability insurance respectively, and VDW membership card shall be presented to the local test director prior to the beginning of the test. Failure to do so will forfeit the right to the test.

Paragraph 5

Local Test Director and Test Organization

- (1) The chairperson of the organizing Regional Group shall designate the local Test Director and the judges for each test in coordination with the VDW Test Director.
- (2) The designated local Test Director must be a VDW judge. He shall be responsible for the proper execution of the test under the rules of the official Test Regulations, the completion of the test report and its submittal to the test director of the regional chapter.
- (3) It is primarily the task of the Test Director of the Regional Group to review the report for compliance with the Test Regulations. He shall coordinate with the local Test Director and the judges to clarify unclear or inaccurate statements, and to make appropriate corrections. He shall be responsible for the timely submittal of the report to the VDW Test Director (see Paragraph 14).
- (4) The designated local Test Director must hold a judges conference prior to the beginning of each test.

Paragraph 6

Association Judges of VDW (referred to as Judges)

- (1) The act of judging necessitates objectivity and compliance with the Test Regulations. These set the boundaries for the Judges' essential discretionary power.
- (2) In coordination with the chairperson and the test director of the Regional Group, the local Test Director shall assign Judges and judging teams, and designate Senior Judges.
- (3) Each judging team must be comprised of three Judges two of whom must be VDW Judges. The local test director can designate a VDW judge apprentice to be the third Judge. One of the VDW Judges shall act as the Senior Judge. He shall be responsible for proper execution of the test within his team; he is also the exclusive spokesman for the team.
- (4) In coordination with the Senior Judges, the local Test Director will assign VDW apprentice judges to the judging teams.

Paragraph 7

Running Order

- (1) The test office shall complete a list with the names of the dogs in the test. This list shall be distributed to the judges and handlers prior to the beginning of the test.

(2) Judges and apprentice judges may not judge dogs which they own, trained or bred, or when they own one or both parents of the dog. Whenever possible, dogs from the same litter should be judged by different teams.

(3) When one judging team judges every subject in a test, there shall be not more than five dogs assigned to the team.

(4) The local Test Director, judges and apprentice judges may not handle a dog during a test in which they have been designated as an official.

Paragraph 8 Test Execution

(1) Prior to the beginning of the test, the judges must verify the identity of the dogs. Dogs that cannot be clearly identified must be excluded from the test.

(2) The local Test Director shall determine the sequence of test subjects in coordination with the senior judge.

(3) Each dog must be evaluated individually during each test subject. The next dog may not be called to run before the previous dog has completed its work and has been leashed, or after it is certain that the next dog in sequence will not be obstructed in its work.

(4) When a dog gets outside its handler's control and remains absent for a long period of time and is not present for its call to the next test subject, it can be excluded from the remainder of the test.

Paragraph 9 Performance Rating System

(1) The performance of each dog is rated in each subject, using the following scores:

Score	Predicate
9	excellent*
7 and 8	very good
5 and 6	good
2, 3 and 4	sufficient
1	not adequate
0	insufficient
-	not tested

* (applies only to Nose and the Will to Track)

(2) The score achieved in an individual test subject is computed by multiplying the points with the respective value multiplier (see Chapters II-IV herein). The addition of all individual scores determines the total test score.

(3) As soon as the judging team has completed testing all dogs in their team in one category, the senior judge, or a judge designated by him, must inform each handler of how his dog's demonstrated natural abilities, or performance respectively, were evaluated and which score was given ("Open Judging").

Paragraph 10 Rules of Protest

In concurrence with the *JGHV* Rules of Protest, the following rules shall apply:

(1) The right to protest shall be exclusively reserved to the party who handled the dog during testing.

(2) Grounds for protests shall be limited to errors and mistakes by the organizer, the local test director, judges and assistants in preparation and execution of the test, provided that handler or dog were thereby disadvantaged or were interfered with during their work.

(3) Objections to the discretionary power of the judges cannot be subject of a protest.

(4) The protest period begins with the calling of the dogs to the test and ends half an hour after the scores have been announced in open judging.

(5) The protest is to be submitted in writing – a copy is not required – to the local test director or the chairperson of the Regional Group, when present, or the respective senior judge. The protest must specify the grounds for the protest and be accompanied by payment of the protest fee in the amount of 40.00 Euro. The fee shall be refunded if the protest is sustained, otherwise, it will be credited to the treasury of the Regional Group.

(6) A Protest Committee shall decide on the protest if the judges did not remedy the situation.

The Protest Committee is comprised of one chairperson and two associates.

(7) The protesting party and the organizing Regional Group shall each designate one associate.

The associates then agree on a chairperson. If the associates fail to come to an agreement regarding the chairperson, the organizing Regional Group shall designate a chairperson.

Members of the Protest Committee must be accredited Association Judges.

Persons may not be members of the Protest Committee if they are married, blood related as far as three times removed, related by marriage or share the same living quarters as a significant other with either the protesting party, one of the judges in the judging team under protest or any other party related in some manner to the action.

This rule shall also apply to owners, breeders and trainers of the respective dog and any of its first generation off-spring.

(8) The associates are **not** advocates for either party. Their decisions, likewise those of the chairperson, must be based upon the review of facts ascertained during a hearing of the parties (handler and judges) with such review being in

strict adherence to the Test Regulations and to the best of their ability and total objectivity.

(9) Any of the following decisions are possible:

- a) The protest is denied;
- b) The score is corrected if it is determined that the Test Regulations were applied incorrectly;
- c) The specific test subject may be re-tested when it is determined that the Test Regulations were violated. The local test director shall be responsible for re-testing and supervise the event. It is not required that the same judges whose judging was under protest, judge at the re-testing. Members of the Protest Committee may not participate in the re-testing.

(10) Fees incurred from the re-testing shall be paid by the protesting party and/or the organizing Regional Group, depending on the decision of the Protest Committee.

(11) The decision of the Protest Committee is final. The chairperson shall take minutes of the hearing, including the decision that the Committee arrived at and a brief statement explaining the reasons for the decision. The organizing Regional Group shall forward the minutes and the test report within three weeks to the VDW Chairperson.

Paragraph 11 Withdrawal from Test

(1) The handler may withdraw his dog from the test at any time upon stating the reason. The reason shall be recorded in the test report.

The scores which the dog has thus far received for its performance shall be recorded in the test certificate, the test report and pedigree. The dog is considered tested in such an instance.

(2) If the dog is withdrawn from the test upon recommendation by the judges, due to an obvious illness or injury during the test, the dog is considered not tested (Paragraph 2[2] is hence not affected).

(3) If the result for the entire test is already available for the dog, it may no longer be withdrawn from the test.

Paragraph 12 Prize Classifications

(1) In accordance with the respective types of tests and their requirements, prizes of various classifications are awarded.

(2) When more than one dog achieve the same prize, they shall be listed by total points in descending order. In the event that more than one dog achieved the same sum total of points, the younger of the dogs shall be listed first. When dogs with the same sum total are of identical age, the dog with the higher breed book number shall rank first.

Paragraph 13 Test Certificate and Pedigree

(1) After testing has been concluded, the local test director must announce the results and issue to each handler a test certificate that has been signed by each judge in the dog's judging team.

(2) The test results shall be recorded in the dog's pedigree. For the subject "Water", the entry is to be made in the following manner:

Juvenile Test *JP* = enter score;

Versatile Ability Tests/Utility Test *EP/EPB/GP* = *I.E. j/n/n.gepr.* (live duck, yes/no/not tested).

The dog's pedigree shall be returned to the handler.

Paragraph 14 Reporting

(1) Each judging team must complete a typed written report on the testing within their team. The report must identify points that were crucial in evaluating the dog. The senior judge shall be responsible for the correctness of the report and its concurrence with verbal statements previously made on the performance of the individual dogs.

(2) The local Test Director compiles the judging teams' reports submitted by each senior judge into one test report. The test report must be forwarded with the test certificates by the Regional Group test director to the VDW Test Director within 8 weeks following the test.

(3) An administrative fee may be imposed by the respective Regional Group for late test reports or test reports for which a reminder was necessary. The amount of the fee shall be determined by the VWD Chairperson.

(4) The VDW Test Director shall review the test reports and forward them to the Breed Registry for their entry, to the VDW Breed Book Registry for evaluation and inclusion into the VDW Newsletter for publication.

Paragraph 15 Special Regulations and Safety Regulations

(1) Judges, handlers and other parties involved in the tests participate at their own risk. The organizer shall be exempt from any liability towards the aforementioned parties.

(2) Each participant shall comply with the instructions given by the local test director and the judges. Participants who interfere with the performance of a judge or violate animal protection laws can be excluded from continuing the test by order of the senior judge after he has coordinated this decision with the local test director.

(3) Handlers may shoot only when instructed by the judges to do so. Handlers who are not in possession of a valid hunting license must designate a license holder among the test participants who will do the shooting on their behalf.

(4) The General Safety Regulations for hunts involving multiple hunters shall apply to the handling of guns at tests.

(5) Dogs that are not under evaluation are to be kept on leash and quiet.

Paragraph 16 **Types of Tests and Test Entry Requirements**

(1) Young dogs, up to the age of 18 months, are handled in the Juvenile Test (*JP*).

(2) The Versatile Ability Test can be conducted with hare track (**EP**) or without hare track (**EPB**). Versatile Utility in accordance with the respective German State regulations can be tested in combination with either of the aforementioned tests. Dogs that are to be tested at an **EPB** must have been tested regarding the subjects Nose, Scent, Loud Hunting and Will to Track at least once before with a score of "sufficient" or higher.

(3) In the Utility Test **GP**, a fully trained versatile forest dog should demonstrate a high level of performance acquired through thorough training and continued encouragement by its handler.

Dogs that are to be tested at a Utility Test *GP* must already have been tested regarding the following subjects: Nose, Scent, Loud Hunting and Will to Track at least once prior with a score of "sufficient" or higher.

(4) Performance Awards while hunting and Special Tests:

a) The VDW Test Regulations govern these tests:

- Performance Award for natural blood tracking;
- Long Distance Hunter;
- Performance Award for Wild Boar;
- Test After the Shot.

b) The JGHV Test Regulations govern these tests:

- Hardness Test;
- Association Blood Tracking Test;
- Association Hoof Shoe Tracking Test;
- After the Shot Association Test;
- Retrieve Reliability on Wounded Game Test;
- Retrieve Reliability Test;
- Halt Award.

Paragraph 17 Conformation Rating General Guidelines

- (1) Only a *VDH* recognized *VDW* Conformation Judge can award a conformation rating for a Deutscher Wachtelhund.
The *VDW* Breeding Regulations govern the procedure for the training and appointment of Conformation Judges.
- (2) The purpose of the conformation rating is to evaluate the dog's physical appearance, body conformation and its function, as well as the dog's health and constitution.
- (3) The conformation rating is conducted according to the *DW* Breed Standards (see Appendix herein) and the Predicate definitions (Paragraph 20).
- (4) Each *JP*, *EP*, *EPB* and *GP* includes a conformation rating. The conformation rating is an integral component of these tests without which the test is considered not passed.
- (5) The confirmation rating can also be obtained at breed shows (*Körschau*, *Pfostenschau*), or at exhibitions.

Paragraph 18 Conformation Rating – Procedure and Results

- (1) The conformation rating includes the description of the type, determines the dentition status, eye and testicular conditions, and the dog's size. The coat is described in terms of color, texture and level of suitability. The dog is thus evaluated and awarded a conformation rating predicate (Paragraph 19).
- (2) The conformation rating is the prerequisite for the breeding certification. Predicates "Good" and better permit the use of the dog for breeding, as long as all other requirements of the Breeding Regulations (*ZO-DW*) are met.
- (3) The conformation rating is recorded in the dog's pedigree and added to the breeding statistics (**ZWS**). The rating is also published in the *DW* Newsletter. The rating will take into account such temperament faults as timidity, aggression, inclination to bite or hand shyness, if a dog displays any of them during the conformation rating process.
- (4) Physical faults that disqualify from breeding as well as temperamental faults must be recorded in the judges' report and entered in the Test Certificate.
- (5) Faults may never be disguised or undisclosed. Past surgical procedures on the dog must be reported to the judge.
- (6) The current Conformation Judge Regulations and the current Breed Show Regulations as adopted in cooperation between the *VDH* and the *VDW* shall be applied.

- (7) The DW Standard defines the following range for standard sizes
- of male dogs: 48 to 54 cm height at withers
 - of female dogs: 45 to 52 cm height at withers

Paragraph 19

Conformation Rating Predicates

The VDW Conformation Judges can award the following predicates for conformation ratings:

Excellent	=	v
Very Good	=	sg
Good	=	g
Sufficient	=	ggd
Not sufficient	=	nggd
No rating	=	o.B.

Dogs up to 12 months of age will receive a rating marked by the word "*Jugend*" (juvenile) or *FW/J*.

Paragraph 20

Definition of Predicates

A dog can receive the Predicate ***vorzüglich (excellent) or (v)*** when it very closely approaches the ideal type and the Breed Standards, is in excellent condition when presented and displays a well-balanced and harmonious temperament. Minor imperfections are tolerated in light of the dog's otherwise outstanding breed characteristics; the dog must possess the gender typical features.

A dog can receive the Predicate ***sehr gut (very good) or (sg)*** when it possesses the breed typical characteristics. Its proportions are well-balanced and it is presented in good condition. Some minor faults that do not adversely affect the dog's health and usability will be permitted.

Features that are still permissible for a very good (sg) rating are, for example:

- Ear including hair on ear do not reach nose
- Over or undersized by not more than 1 cm
- Minor faults in gait

The accumulation of minor faults will necessitate the next lower Predicate.

A dog can receive the Predicate ***gut (good) or (g)*** when it possesses the breed's principal characteristics while having major or several minor faults. These faults may not excessively impact on the dog's health and usability.

Features that are still permissible for a good (g) rating are, for example:

- Extra incisors (I) and extra premolars (P) and molars (M)
- Missing one P1 or one I
- Eyelids not totally flush with eye
- Ear canal too narrow, conducive to ear infections
- Lips hanging too low and not closed, pocket forming
- Insufficient coat on belly
- Over or undersized by not more than 2 cm

The accumulation of above faults will necessitate the next lower Predicate.

A dog receives the Predicate **genügend (sufficient) or (ggd)** when it still sufficiently possesses the breed's type characteristics while having severe faults or deficiencies in its physical condition.

Features that are still permissible for a sufficient (ggd) rating are, for example:

- Missing several P1 or several I
- Slightly "open eye" nearing an ectropion condition
- Slight unspecific irregularities of skin and coat
- Thin, open coat

The accumulation of above faults will necessitate the next lower Predicate.

A dog receives the Predicate **nicht genügend (not sufficient) or (nggd)** when it does not possess the characteristics of the standard type, displays severe faults and the absence of breed appropriate demeanor, or is aggressive. This Predicate shall also be given to a dog that deviates from one typical breed characteristic to such extent that its health is severely impacted.

Features that are considered for the rating of not sufficient (nggd) are, for example:

- Testicular faults
- Acute ear infection
- Severe bite and jaw irregularities
- Ectropion (open eye), entropion, congenital eye conditions
- Skeletal abnormalities, such as knee/patella luxation and similar conditions
- Acute, severe skin and coat abnormalities
- Disorders of the nervous system, such as diagnosed epilepsy and conditions of similar nature.
- Very defined temperamental faults, such as hand shyness, aggression, biting inclination.
- Black coat

A dog receives the rating **ohne Bewertung (not rated) or (o. B.)** when none of the above Predicates can be applied, when the dog is ill or suspected to be ill, demonstrates an inclination to bite and is aggressive making it impossible to check its bite, body and conformation.

A dog cannot receive a rating other than **not rated** when upon presentation it is determined that surgical procedures or treatments have been applied to the dog (such as eye lid corrections) with the intent to hide the dog's original condition.

The reason for the rating **not rated** must be stated in the judges' report and the test certificate.

Chapter II

Juvenile Performance Test *Jugendprüfung (JP)*

Paragraph 21 General Guidelines

(1) The purpose of the Juvenile Performance Test is to determine the young dog's inherited natural abilities.

(2) Within the subjects of Paragraph 22, each of the dog's positive and negative natural abilities must be ascertained and recorded in detail in the Juvenile Performance Test.

Faults in the dog's temperament are to be recorded in the test report.

(3) *JP* results provide very important information for breeding and the breeding value of the tested dog's parents. The results become part of the breeding value factor (*ZWS*) and of the breeding management.

(4) *JPs* should normally be conducted between mid March to the end of April within one calendar year; they may also be held in the fall.

Paragraph 22 *JP* Test Subjects and Rating Point System

Category	Multiplier	Required Points for Predicate		
		Prize I	Prize II	Price III
Nose	3	21	15	6
Scent Loud Hunting	3	21	15	6
Will to Track	3	21	15	6
Tracking Proficiency	1	5	5	-
Natural Flushing Ability	2	14	10	4
Behavior at the Water	2	14	10	4
Cooperation	1	5	2	-
Gunshot Soundness	1	8	8	4
Multiplier Total	16			
Required Total Points		109	80	30
Highest Score Achievable		134		

Paragraph 23

General Guidelines for Evaluating the Hare Track

(1) Nose, loud hunting while tracking, the will to track and tracking proficiency are important natural abilities in the Deutscher Wachtelhund and can only be tested under natural conditions on the track of a hare which was not spotted by the dog. It is of utmost importance to the breeding objectives that judges adequately recognize variations in natural abilities, particularly during the Juvenile Tests (*JP*), and come to the appropriate score conclusion.

(2) For an adequate track evaluation, the terrain must be such that the tracking course is visible to the judges. Similar to an actual hare search in the field, judges and handlers (members of the gallery may be included) drive through the terrain. When a hare is flushed, one of the judges will call for a dog that preferably has not sighted the flushed hare. The handler must start his dog on the track or in close proximity.

(3) The test conditions for each dog in the test should be as equal as possible. Judges are expected to come to a final evaluation of the dog in this category after it has worked two hare tracks within their visual control. The tracks shall involve several of the natural conditions that affect the difficulty of the track, i.e. type of terrain, ground cover, age of track, angles, paved roads, ground obstacles etc. Even one single track performance involving the cover of a long and wide reaching area may suffice for the evaluation as long as it involves the essential difficulties.

(4) A third track performance should be conducted and aid in determining the appropriate score if a dog shows greatly varying performances on the initial two tracks. The final score may not be based exclusively on the dog's best performed track. Instead, the judges must assess the dog and render the final score as a sum total of each of the dog's performance in consideration of the difficulties involved.

(5) If a dog does not work one track for reasons that are not evident, the track cannot be used for the evaluation. In this case, for verification, the judges should call upon a dog of the same group that has already received a good evaluation in tracking to be started on this track.

The performance of the second dog may not adversely affect its overall performance already displayed. If neither the second dog starts working the track in question, no evaluation will be made for this particular track. If the second dog, however, works the track equivalent to a score of at least "sufficient" (2), the performance of the initial dog must be rated "insufficient" (0).

(6) The evaluations below correspond to **regular conditions**. Conditions involving particular difficulty or advantages are to be taken into account by the judges for each case and documented in the test report.

Paragraph 24 Nose

(1) By use of its nose, the dog controls its ability to overcome difficulties on the hare track and to continue proficiently on the track. The nose of a dog with a low desire to track cannot be assessed adequately over the "distance of the track." In such cases, overcoming difficult track conditions (e.g. more aged tracks) can aid in adequately assessing the dog's nose.

(2) The length of the track performance is to be noted in the judges' report. The following guidelines shall apply in the presence of regular conditions:

Score	Length of Track
0	no performance;
1	less than c. 200 m/218.8 yds;
2	at least 200 m/218.8 yds;
3-4	more than 200 m/218.8 yds, less than c. 500 m/547 yds;
5-6	more than 500 m/547 yds, less than c. 800 m/875 yds;
7-8	more than 800 m/875 yds, less than c. 1,500 m/1641 yds;
9	more than 1,500 m/1641 yds, and supported by an additional performance of at least "very good".

Paragraph 25 Scent Loud Hunting

(1) A "factual" loud is required which commences as the dog acknowledges the track and continues as long as the dog stays on the track.

A greatly delayed onset of the loud or the absence of loud at long intervals although the dog works and stays on the track will result in a lower score.

(2) The type of loud is to be recorded in the judges' report. The following guidelines apply in the presence of regular conditions:

Score	Loud
-	No tracking performance;
0	No loud;
1	Dogs with sporadic loud on a track that cannot be observed;
2-4	Dogs correctly working the track and not giving tongue over long distances (in excess of 50 m/54.7 yds). The course of the track must be evident from the dog's loud. Initial loud over a short distance followed by complete silence may not be scored "sufficient". If the dog, however, initializes the track without loud over a very long distance (up to half of the entire track) and then continues with a confident loud, it is to be scored "sufficient";
5-6	Dogs who regularly give loud late into the track although they have correctly worked the track over a long distance (c. 100 m/109.4 yds) or dogs with loud that stops regularly over short intervals;
7-8	Dogs that give loud upon acknowledging the track and staying on it, and that continue to give loud as long as they correctly work the track (including casting within the assumed scent area). The loud must stop when the dog loses or overruns the track at angles and must resume when the dog proficiently tracks again.

Paragraph 26 Liberal Loud

(1) The dog's loud is initiated by noticing the scent of game and is in direct relationship to the dog's stimulation threshold. A nervous dog that is excitable tends to give loud easily upon minor stimulation.

(2) This natural trait is most prominently developed in the "game loud". When during its tracking performance, the dog displays a tendency, however slight, towards this trait, its loud on the hare track in the field will be identified with the supplement "L", including the following variations.

Score	Loud
6(L)	Dogs that otherwise are reliably loud on the track, but continue to be loud when casting outside the scent area;
4(L)	Dogs that are continuously loud both on the track and largely off the track, or that give loud as soon as leashed for the tracking work but without a definite acknowledgment of the track. Such dogs must be checked for loud on game and only if negative, will be scored 4(L). Loud on game must be verified by leashing the dog during the field search;
2(L)	Dogs that have demonstrated to be loud on game . Dogs are defined as being loud on game when they regularly give loud upon being leashed for tracking work and continue to be loud without chasing game or working a furred game track or split hoofed game track.

(3) The verification of game loud must be recorded in the judges' report.

(4) Game loud must be recorded on the score sheet as a "noticeable temperamental fault".

Paragraph 27 The Will to Track

(1) The willingness to track is demonstrated by the dog's "desire to advance on the track", its determination to follow the track.

The dog that repeatedly returns to the place where it lost the scent shows a great degree of tracking willingness even if it lacks the necessary proficiency (either due to inexperience and lack of training, or due to its nose quality) to work the track from that point forth. The opposite may be the case where dogs with a fine nose and proficient tracking performance demonstrate little will to track.

(2) The time that a dog spends advancing on the track is the crucial criterion in assessing its will to track. The time elapsed between start and finish of the tracking work is essential to the evaluation of the Will to Track. The time used must be recorded in the test report. For the purpose of determining this time period, the time between when the dog finished the tracking work and when it was leashed by its handler shall not be taken into account.

(3) The dog demonstrates the Will to Track by its concentrated effort to follow the track, in particular by short range circular casting before finishing the work, but not by wide casting and unmotivated running which causes the dog to cross the track without acknowledging it.

(4) The following applies when **regular conditions** prevail:

Score	Time
0	zero time;
1	less than one minute;
2-4	c. one minute but less than three minutes;
5-6	c. three minutes but less than five minutes;
7-8	c. five minutes but less than ten minutes;
9	c. ten and more minutes.

(5) When a dog abruptly, without cause, stops its tracking work and fails to put any effort forth, it can receive the score "sufficient" (2) only if the track at this point has been worked for at least 200 m (218.8 yds).

A busy search in the handler's proximity does not constitute the Will to Track.

Paragraph 28 Tracking Proficiency

(1) The dog's tracking proficiency is demonstrated by its ability to adjust its tracking speed relative to the difficulty of the track and the quality of its nose.

(2) The following guidelines apply when **regular conditions** prevail:

Score	Performance
0	Dogs that are so insecure that a concentrated advance of the track is no longer possible;
1	Dogs that use substantially more time for relocating the overrun track than they do for working the actual track;
2-4	Dogs that frequently veer off the track even when it continues in a straight line, make wide casts or work backwards at large distances when relocating the track;
5-6	Dogs that regularly overrun turns and angles due to excessive speed and frequently track outside the scent area of the track;
7-8	Dogs that adjust their tracking speed relative to the difficulty of the track and essentially hunt with proficiency within the scent area.

Paragraph 29 Track Reliability

(1) The dog demonstrates track reliability by remaining steadfast on "its" hare track even in the presence of other fresh tracks or when sighting game. In other words, the dog does not change over to other tracks when hunting.

(2) When a dog under evaluation demonstrates absolute track reliability, such performance must be recorded in the test report and the score sheet.

Paragraph 30 Natural Flushing Ability

- (1) During the Juvenile Test (*JP*) the dog's natural ability to flush is tested. The dog under evaluation is to demonstrate that it strives to find game. Suitable terrain for this subject are thickets that allow the judges to maintain visual contact and less dense ground cover where the dog has no visual contact to the handler. Each dog shall have at least 1 ha (2.5 acres) for its search.
- (2) Ideally, the dog should demonstrate a calm and systematic search of the cover. Hasty and superficial search work, working primarily edges and frequent returns to the handler will result in a lower score.
- (3) When there is no clear conclusion of the dog's flushing performance, it is to be evaluated a second time in a different area. The same applies when a working dog flushes game shortly into the search.
- (4) For a score of "very good", the dog's search should not be less than 5 minutes.

Paragraph 31 Behavior at the Water

- (1) The dog should enter water readily and without hesitation. Except for the bank area, the water must be deep enough that the dog has to swim. When the dog hesitates to enter water, objects may be thrown to prompt it to make the entry.
Assistance of this nature results in a lesser score, with objects remaining on the surface reducing the score more than stones.
- (2) The dog's evaluation shall include adequate consideration of the water and weather conditions (current, waves, temperature, precipitation).

Paragraph 32 Gunshot Soundness

- (1) The dog's gunshot soundness shall be tested in a wooded area.
- (2) The dog's gunshot soundness is determined when the handler, upon instruction by the judges, fires two shots in appropriate sequence while the dog searches within shotgun range.
- (3) When the dog cannot be sent to search within a reasonable time, the shots shall still be fired. If the dog's behavior cannot be clearly evaluated, this portion of the test is to be repeated in 30 minutes at the earliest.

Score	Behavior
8	The dog is gunshot sound when it either remains unimpressed by the gun fire, or demonstrates excessive passion, or after a brief moment of fear or a halt in motion returns to the handler and continues the search without delay after commanded by the handler;
4	The dog is gunshot sensitive when it displays clear and lasting signs of fear (inhibited forward motion, tucked in tail or similar signs) following the gun fire, returns to the handler and continues the search – even with visible reluctance – not later than one minute after being commanded by the handler;
0	The dog is gun shy when it displays signs of fear at the mere sight of the gun or gun fire, or runs away, or seeks protection from the handler or gallery, when it refuses to resume the search or remains outside the handler's control.

(4) When a dog is evaluated to be "gunshot sensitive" or "gun shy" (scores 4 or 0), this is to be recorded in the score sheet as "verified temperamental fault". Gun shy dogs cannot pass the test. They should continue to be tested, however, in all subjects in the interest of future breeding.

Paragraph 33 Cooperation

The dog's degree of cooperation is rated by its attention and devotion to the handler, and by its willingness to cooperate with the handler.

When the young dog persistently pursues a furred game track or a split hoofed game track and remains outside the handler's control for much longer than would be desirable with a finished dog, or when it cannot be called off game by either a whistle or voice command, such behavior may not be evaluated to the dog's disadvantage as a lack in cooperation.

Chapter III

Versatile Ability Tests (*EP/EPB*)

Paragraph 34 General Guidelines

- (1) The VDW conducts two types of versatile ability tests:
 - Versatile Ability Test without hare track ***EPB***
 - Versatile Ability Test with hare track ***EP***
- (2) The *EPB* is a test where not only the dog's versatile hunting ability is tested to determine whether it meets the obligatory minimum requirements, but also to test some of the dog's natural abilities (flushing, water work etc.)
- (3) Apart from the abilities listed in (2) above, the *EP* also tests the dog's inherited abilities on the hare track as it developed through continued training and handling.
To this end, the *EP* serves as an extension of the Juvenile Test *JP*. The test furthermore serves to test the natural abilities of those dogs that have not previously run a Juvenile Test *JP*.
- (4) In either of the two tests, the organizing regional group may simultaneously conduct the versatile utility test under the rules of the German State where the tests are held.
In conducting the versatile utility test, the Regional Groups adopt the applicable test regulations of the respective States.
- (5) Versatile Ability Tests must be conducted in the fall.
- (6) The General Guidelines of the Association Water Test Regulations (see Appendix C) are part of the regulations herein and are binding.

Paragraph 35
EPB: Test Subjects and Rating System

Subject	Multiplier	Required Score		
		Prize I	Prize II	Prize III
Flushing in wooded area	3	21	15	6
Gunshot Soundness - wooded area - water	1 yes/no/-	8 yes	8 yes	4 yes
Blind retrieve in water	2	14	10	4
Flushing of live duck	passed yes/no/not tested*	(yes)*	(yes)*	(yes)*
Retrieving - feathered game 150 m (164 yds) - furred game 300 m (328 yds) - duck from deep water	1 2 2	7 14 14	5 10 10	2 4 4
Obedience	2	14	10	4
Blood tracking	passed yes/no	yes	yes	yes
Versatile Hunting Ability under State Law	passed yes/no/not tested	-	-	-
Multiplier Total	13			
Required Points Total		92	68	28
Maximum Score Achievable		104		

* (yes/no) Tested only in German States where live duck search is permitted.

(not tested) when State Laws prohibit this subject or when the dog may not continue with the test because Paragraphs 39(4) or 40(4) apply.

Dogs that fail in the subject Flushing of Live Duck (not passed) cannot pass the test as a whole.

Paragraph 36
EP: Test Subjects and Rating System

Subject	Multiplier	Required Score		
		Prize I	Prize II	Prize III
Flushing in wooded area	3	21	15	6
Gunshot Soundness				
- wooded area	1	8	8	4
- water	yes/no/-	yes	yes	yes
Blind retrieve in water	2	14	10	4
Flushing of live duck	passed yes/no/not tested*	(yes)*	(yes)*	(yes)*
Retrieving				
- feathered game 150 m (164 yds)	1	7	5	2
- furred game 300 m (328 yds)	2	14	10	4
- duck from deep water	2	14	10	4
Obedience	2	14	10	4
Blood tracking	Passed yes/no	yes	yes	yes
Hare track				
- nose	3	21	15	6
- loud	3	21	15	6
- will to track	3	21	15	6
- tracking proficiency	2	14	10	4
Versatile Hunting Ability under State Law	passed yes/no/not tested	-	-	-
Multiplier Total	24			
Required Points Total		169	123	50
Maximum Score Achievable		198		

* (yes/no) Tested only in German States where live duck search is permitted.

(not tested) when State Laws prohibit this subject or when the dog may not continue with the test because Paragraphs 39(4) or 40(4) apply.

Dogs that fails in the subject Flushing of Live Duck cannot pass the test as a whole.

Paragraph 37 Flushing

(1) The Versatile Ability Test (*Eignungsprüfung*) is different from the Juvenile Test in that the prepared hunting dog is expected to do regular flushing work.

(2) The preferred terrain for flushing are thickets, alternatively wooded areas with heavy underbrush and corn fields. Each dog must have a search area of 2 ha (5 acre).

Each dog is to be tested in this subject for a minimum of 10 minutes.

(3) The conditions are to resemble actual hunting. The presence of game is desirable.

When the dog's flushing performance is questionable, it is to be tested again in a different search area. The same shall apply when the dog finds game after a short time into the search.

(4) The dog should conduct a thorough search of the thickets and hunt located game with loud until the game leaves the thicket, and then willingly return to its handler.

A dog that chases game for an extended period of time is not to be given a negative evaluation.

Paragraph 38 Gunshot Soundness in Wooded Area

(1) Gunshot soundness is tested in a forest.

(2) For the purpose of determining the dog's gunshot soundness, two shots in adequate sequence shall be fired by the handler upon instruction by the judges while the dog is searching within shotgun range.

(3) When the dog cannot be sent to hunt within an appropriate time, the shots are still to be fired. If the dog's behavior cannot be evaluated with certainty, this portion of the test is to be repeated in 30 minutes at the earliest.

Score	Reaction
8	The dog is gun stable when it displays no reaction to the shots, or displays great excitement, or, after momentary signs of fear or a brief halt in its motion, returns to the handler and continues its search without delay upon command by the handler;
4	The dog is gun sensitive when, after the shots, it displays clear and continued signs of fear (reluctant forward motion, tucked-in tail or similar signs), and returns to its handler but resumes the search within one minute after having been commanded by its handler;
0	The dog is gun shy when it reacts with fear or runs away at the mere sight of a gun or from the gun fire, or seeks comfort by running to the handler or to members of the gallery, and refuses to resume the search or remains outside the control of its handler.

(4) When a dog is evaluated as being "gun sensitive" or "gun shy" (scores 4 and 0), the score sheet must be marked "noticeable temperamental fault" in the appropriate box. Dogs that are gun shy cannot pass the test. However, they

should continue to run in the remaining subjects of the test in the interest of future breeding.

Paragraph 39 Gunshot Soundness in Water

(1) No score shall be given for the subject Gunshot Soundness in Water. Gunshot Soundness is classified as **gun stable**, **not gun stable** and **not tested**.

(2) A dead duck is thrown far into open water with the dog observing. The dog is sent to retrieve.

During this portion, the dog's Gunshot Soundness as defined in (3) below is evaluated and its manner of retrieve according to Paragraph 42.

(3) A shot from a shotgun is fired onto the water towards the duck while the dog is swimming towards the duck.

	Reaction is evaluated as follows
Yes	The dog is gun stable when it displays no reaction to the shot;
No	The dog is not gun stable when upon the shot it stops swimming and returns to the handler;
-	The dog is not tested when it has not entered the water within one minute after being commanded which renders the shooting unnecessary.

(4) A dog may not continue the water portion of the test when it has been marked "not gun stable" or "not tested", or failed to retrieve the duck.

(5) When a dog is evaluated as "not gun stable", the score sheet must be marked "noticeable temperamental fault" in the appropriate box.

Paragraph 40 Blind Retrieve from Densely Vegetated Water

(1) The blind retrieve from densely vegetated water is conducted immediately following the test for the gunshot soundness.

(2) For this purpose, a dead duck is thrown into cover so that the dog neither sees the throw nor the duck from the shoreline. The duck should be placed at a location that requires that the dog be sent to the cover across open water where it can reach the duck only by swimming to it (island, opposite shore).

This subject must be conducted in such a fashion that a judge is able to observe from his cover the dog's behavior in the presence of the found duck.

(3) From a distance of at least 30 m (32.8 yds), the handler is shown the approximate direction to the spot where the duck has been placed. The handler commands the dog to search and retrieve the duck. The dog should search for the duck, it must find the duck and retrieve it to the handler.

(4) The handler may help and direct his dog; continuous influence or shots/stone throws, however, will lower the predicate.

If the dog has seen the duck, it has found it and must retrieve it. If the dog fails to retrieve the duck that it has seen, it may not continue the water portion of the test.

(5) If during the blind retrieve the dog finds a live duck, Paragraph 41 shall apply and the dog's performance shall be evaluated accordingly. If the dog's performance is rated as passed, the blind retrieve from dense cover shall be repeated with the originally placed duck.

Paragraph 41 **Flushing of Live Duck in Densely Vegetated Water**

(1) This subject shall be tested only in those regional groups where the respective State Laws allow the test.

The performance is simply rated as "passed" or "failed".

(2) The duck is released into cover without marking a starting spot. The dog may not see these preparations.

(3) After the duck has been released, the judges will direct the handler to a spot in shotgun distance from where the duck has been released and indicate to him the direction of the duck. The handler releases his dog from this spot to independently search the duck.

(4) The dog should search for the duck and find it. The handler may help and direct his dog.

(5) As soon as the dog flushes the duck from its cover and sight-chases, the duck must be shot by the handler or another authorized person, if this can be safely accomplished.

(6) The dog must retrieve the shot duck.

(7) The judges should terminate the dog's work as soon as they have arrived at a conclusive judgment. This shall also apply to cases where the duck was not shot before the dog.

(8) If the dog fails to retrieve the duck after having found it for the first time, it may not continue the test.

In the above case, the dog has automatically failed the subject "Flushing of Live Duck in Densely Vegetated Water". When the dog sees the duck, it is considered found.

(9) If the dog accidentally encounters a different duck during its work, then this performance must be evaluated likewise.

(10) The judges can terminate the dog's work when they have concluded that the dog does not meet the requirements.

(11) If the dog fails this portion of the test, it may be repeated once (see Paragraph 68 [60] of the VPOW General Guidelines).

Paragraph 42 Retrieve of Duck

(1) All of the dog's retrieves from water are to be taken into account for the evaluation of the manner of retrieve.

(2) The final score for "Retrieve of Duck" is computed from these three (two) individual retrieves.

Each of the retrieves must be rated at least "sufficient (2)"; any lesser score will result in the final score of insufficient for the subject "Retrieve of Duck".

Paragraph 43 General Guidelines for Retrieve of Drag Game

(1) The handler is to bring his own drag game to the test; he is entitled to his game being used for the drag of his dog. If it was specified in the test announcement that handlers bring their own drag game, a handler without drag game shall not have a right that his dog be tested in the respective subjects.

(2) The drags must be laid by one judge (and one apprentice judge where applicable). The drags must be laid for each dog under equal conditions on similar terrain. For its major portion, the drag must be laid downwind. For tests of all levels, the minimum distance between drags must be at 100 m (109.4 yds).

(3) All dogs are to be kept in an area from where they cannot see the drag preparations.

(4) The dragged game must be placed freely at the end of the drag (not in a depression or behind a tree). The laying of a second piece of game near the drag layer is not permitted. The drag layer is to walk in a straight line from the drag end and hide himself downwind in cover so that the dog working the drag cannot see him.

(5) The drag layer must be able to observe, from his cover, the dog's behavior at the game.

(6) Judges must show the handler the starting point of the drag. The handler may work his dog on a leash for the initial 20 m (21.9 yds) of the drag. He then has to unleash the dog.

(7) If the dog fails to find the placed game, he may be restarted twice on the drag. When the dog has found the placed game and leaves the area without retrieving it, or if it fails to find the game on the drag track after a total of three starts, its performance shall be rated "insufficient" = 0.

(8) It shall be noted in the test report when a dog eats or buries the game. In this case, the work shall be rated "insufficient" = 0.

(9) The "Retrieve" is the total sum of the work: The dog is to find the game quickly and proficiently, seize it immediately in a secure hold, deliver to the handler and release it to him correctly.

The dog shall be allowed to release heavy retrieve game briefly to get a better hold.

(10) If the dog is considerably disturbed during its work through unusual circumstances (not including fresh game scent), it shall be given another drag.

Paragraph 44 Retrieve of Feathered Game

The feathered game drag must be 150 m (164 yds) long with two obtuse right angles. The drag is to be laid on open terrain with low ground cover (grass, freshly seeded or stubble fields, or similar cover). Paragraph 43 applies.

Paragraph 45 Retrieve of Furred Game (Edible)

The furred game drag must be 300 m (328 yds) long with two somewhat right angles. It should be laid mostly in a wooded area; the last two thirds of the drag must be in a wooded area. Paragraph 43 applies.

Paragraph 46 General Obedience

(1) Obedience is the expression of correct and thorough training; it is a prerequisite for any hunting dog if it is to be useful.

(2) A dog demonstrates obedience when it remains quiet during the work of other dogs; does not continuously pull at the leash; whine or howl and the like, and with its behavior proves that it does not disturb its handler and fellow hunters during the hunt.

(3) Obedience of each dog at the test must be evaluated during every test subject. The dogs' obedience is observed during their performance and when they are not working.

(4) In the Hunting Ability Tests under the respective State laws where additional obedience subjects are tested, the handler's actual hunting demeanor shall be taken into account.

(5) A dog does not have the right to complete the test when it remains outside the control of its handler for an extended period of time and misses its call to run.

Paragraph 47 Blood Tracking

- (1) Blood tracking work may be conducted in accordance with the respective State regulations on Versatile Utility or Hunting Ability Tests.
- (2) Performance is not scored by points; it is rated simply as "Passed" or "Not Passed".
- (3) When the dog is not tested for "Versatile Utility" under respective State regulations, the following conditions apply to the blood tracking work.
 - ¼ liter (8.45 oz) of deer blood must be used for a 400 m (437.6 yds) track that may be either dabbed or dripped;
 - The track must have aged at least 2 hours; with two obtuse right angles and one wound bed at approximately half way into the track;
 - The regulations of the Utility Test *GP* (see Paragraph 56) shall apply to laying the blood track and the specifics of the dog's work on leash;
 - When a blood track is laid by means of a hoof shoe, the blood species must match that of the split hooved game. Whenever possible, hoofs and blood should originate from the same piece of game placed at the end of the track. A maximum amount of 0.1 liter (3.38 oz) of blood may be used per track.

Paragraph 48 Nose, Scent Loud, Will to Track, Tracking Proficiency, Track Reliability

Juvenile Test *JP* regulations shall apply (Paragraphs 23 et seq.)

Chapter IV Utility Test (*GP*)

Paragraph 49 General Guidelines

(1) The Utility Test is a performance test where the dog should demonstrate whether it is a finished versatile forest dog capable of meeting the demands of all practical hunting activities. For this reason, the Utility Test must be conducted to duplicate actual hunting conditions. The dog's obedience shall be a principal component in the judges' observations.

(2) Utility Tests may be held in the fall only.

(3) The stipulations of the Association (*JGHV*) Water Test, General Guidelines (see Appendix C) are part of the Regulations and must be observed.

Paragraph 50 Utility Test Subjects and Rating System

Subject	Multiplier	Required Score For Each		
		Prize I	Prize II	Prize III
Flushing	3	21	15	6
Retrieve of				
-feathered game (150 m/164 yds)	1	7	5	2
-hare (300 m/328 yds))	2	14	10	4
-fox (300 m/328 yds; optional).	(3)	-	-	-
Blood Tracking				
-on leash (includes behavior at game);	3	21	15	6
-dead game bayer (optional);	(2)	-	-	-
-dead game guide (optional).	(2)	-	-	-
Water Work				
-gunshot soundness;	yes/no/-	yes	yes	yes
-blind retrieve in densely vegetated water;	2	14	10	4
-flushing without duck;	2	14	10	4
-flushing with duck;	passed	(yes)*	(yes)*	(yes)*
-retrieve from deep water.	yes/no/not tested*	14	10	4
Search Under the Gun				
-work under the gun;	2	14	10	4
-steadiness to shot;	1	7	5	2
-retrieve reliability.	1	5	2	2
Obedience Subjects				
-heeling on leash;	1	7	5	2
-heeling off leash;	1	7	5	2
-down stay;	1	7	5	2
-obedience during drive hunt;	1	7	5	2
-obedience in the presence of split hoofed game;	2	4	-	-
-general obedience.	2	14	10	4
Work Ethics	1	7	5	2
Multiplier Sum Total	28/33**			
Required Score Total		184	127	52
Maximum Score Achievable		224/264**		

* (yes/no) Tested only in German States where live duck search is permitted.
(not tested) when State Laws prohibit this subject or when the dog may not continue with the test because Paragraphs 39(4) or 40(4) apply.

** with optional subjects / without optional subjects

A dog that fails to track the duck scent on water cannot pass the Utility Test.

Paragraph 51 Flushing

(1) Flushing is a principal task for the versatile forest dog. For this reason, the dog must be tested in this subject for at least 15 minutes under conditions that duplicate actual hunting. For the test, sufficiently large and dense thickets are to be used which are likely to hold game. The test should be conducted in an area that is enclosed by woods on all sides. The search area for each dog must be at least 3 ha (7.4 acre). Brushy fields of at least 3 ha (7.4 acre) with dense undercover, or large corn fields, or similar terrain may also be used as search areas.

(2) The judges and those individuals (gunners) that have been designated by the senior judge must surround the search area either by standing or walking around it.

(3) The handler may not leave his position during the test.

(4) The dog should search the surrounded area methodically and thoroughly, locate and flush game, chase furred game with loud until it is shot or has left the search area.

(5) Each dog must be tested individually in this subject and given a fresh area for its first search.

If the dog finds game early and its search cannot be evaluated definitively at that point, it is imperative that its flushing performance be evaluated during a second search.

(6) The Judges must evaluate whether the dog searches methodically and thoroughly, and is able to find game and drive it in front of the gunners. If a dog does not find game during its drive search, a second dog shall be sent as verification to search the area so that the judges can finalize their evaluation.

(7) Searching at great distance outside the designated area is undesirable. A dog that has not returned to its handler within two hours can only receive a score of "sufficient" for the flushing work.

The reason for the score must be explained in the test report.

When a dog is unable to return to its handler for reasons that are not intrinsic to the hunt, i.e. captured by third parties not related to the test, it must be tested again in a second search.

Paragraph 52

Retrieve from Drag General Guidelines

Paragraph 43 applies.

Paragraph 53 Retrieve of Feathered Game

The feathered game drag must be 150 m (164 yds) long and must have two obtuse right angles. The drag should be laid on open terrain with low ground cover (grass, freshly seeded or freshly cut fields or similar terrain).

Paragraph 54 Retrieve of Hare

The hare drag must be 300 m (328 yds) long and must have two obtuse right angles. When possible, the entire drag should be laid in a forest. At least the last two thirds of the drag must be laid in a forest. The hare to be retrieved must have a weight of at least 3 kilos (6.6 lbs).

Paragraph 55
Retrieve of Fox (Optional)

This test is an optional subject at the handler's discretion. The fox drag must be 300 m (328 yds) long and must have two obtuse right angles. Just as the hare drag, this drag must be laid in a forest for the last two thirds of its length. The fox to be retrieved must have a weight of at least 4 kilos (8.8 lbs).

Paragraph 56
Blood Tracking Work – Work on Leash

(1) Dabbing, dripping or hoof shoe (see Appendix B) are permissible methods for laying the artificial blood track. Only one method may be used for the blood tracks of a Utility Test.

Only fresh or frozen blood (no preservatives) of one game species may be used. The blood tracks must be laid in a forest (including openings, narrow wooded fields and similar terrain). When such terrain is difficult to find, the start and the initial 100 m (109.4 yds) of the blood track may be laid in an open field.

(2) Blood tracks may be laid only by a judge.

If several persons participate in the laying of the blood track, the track layer must always be the last person behind all others.

The blood and articles with blood on them must, when not used for track laying, be kept in such a manner that blood cannot touch the ground or cover.

(3) ¼ liter (8.45 oz) of game blood is to be used for each blood track. The start of the track must be marked by ground disturbance and hair from the bullet entry wound, and the respective sign (broken twig). The blood track must be 600 m (656.4 yds) long and must have two obtuse right angles. There must be one wound bed approximately halfway into the track. It is to be marked by ground disturbance and hair from the bullet entry wound.

(4) When markers identifying the course of the track are necessary for the judging team, they must be made such that they are not recognizable by the handler.

(5) The tracks must age overnight and must have aged at least 12 hours prior to the beginning of the blood when the blood tracking work.

(6) Prior to the start of on-leash work, a split hooped game carcass, which must have one bullet hole, is to be laid at the end of the blood track. All other injuries, except the bullet entry and exit, are to be stitched. After placing the carcass, the carcass carrier is to leave the area or hide downwind in such a manner that neither dog nor handler is able to see him. The carcass carrier must be careful not to spill blood or cross blood tracks when carrying the carcass from one end of a track to another.

(7) The judging team shows the spot where the game was initially shot and injured to the handler. From this point forward, the handler and his dog must independently find the carcass.

(8) The judges and the grounds game warden must follow the handler and his dog at an appropriate distance and continue to do so even when the dog has left the track. When the handler calls out the sighting of signs of the track, the judges will simply acknowledge the observation without informing the handler whether he is on the track or not. The handler can mark the spots with appropriate aids.

(9) If the handler wishes to cast back or forward with his dog, he must find the track himself. The judges will follow at an appropriate distance. The handler will only be shown his own marked spots for casting backward.

(10) When a dog gets off the track and has not corrected itself after 100 m (109.4 yds), and the handler has not intervened and himself cast back or forward, the judges must inform the handler at this point that he is off the track (call back).

The handler must find the track by himself. After a dog has been called back more than twice during the tracking work, the leash work has to be scored at best "not adequate".

The judges can terminate "not adequate" or "insufficient" leash work at any time.

(11) Behavior at the carcass. When the carcass has been tracked successfully, the dog will be left off leash with the carcass. The judges must hide downwind where they are not visible to the dog. They must be able to observe the dog. The handler and one judge, and other persons must be far enough away from the dog where they cannot influence the dog's behavior.

If the dog eats from the carcass, it fails the entire blood tracking test. As soon as the judges can form an evaluation of the dog's behavior, they ask the handler to pick up his dog. This portion of the test should take approximately 5 minutes.

The dog is not to be faulted for leaving the carcass.

(12) Members of the gallery may follow and observe the leash work from an appropriate distance only if the handler and the judging team have no objections. Their presence may not hinder the dog's work during expansive changes of direction or during long casts backward. While following the leash work, members of the gallery may not have any dogs with them.

(13) The teamwork between handler and dog shall also be evaluated. The decisive factor for the evaluation, however, is the dog's methodology.

The following criteria are applied to the dog's work methods: The will to track, controlled behavior, proficiency and independence, the manner in which the dog, when encountering difficulties, aids itself in forwarding the track by casting sideways, back and forth, guiding the handler to wound beds, and ignoring distractions from other tracks.

Paragraph 57

Dead Game Bayer (Optional)

(1) It must be indicated on the test entry form if the dog is to be tested as a dead game bayer. The dead game bayer must first complete the standard leash work which will be evaluated as such.

(2) Before the dog begins its regular leash work, the blood track is extended in a straight forward direction by 250 m (273.5 yds) . This is accomplished by creating a second ("fresh") wound bed at the end of the 600 m (656.4 yds) overnight track. From this point forward, 1/8 liter (4.23 oz) of blood is used to extend the overnight track using the same method.

When a hoof shoe is used to lay the overnight track, the second ("fresh") wound bed is created from where the track is extended using the same hoofs from the previous day.

The game is placed at the end of the freshly laid track extension. When reaching this point, the dog must not be able to see its handler waiting at the end of the leash work (location fresh wound bed) or the judges.

(3) When the leashed dog has reached the fresh wound bed, it may continue taking a few steps while leashed on the fresh track; it then must be unleashed. The dog should be proficient in finding the game and begin barking within approximately 10 minutes. The handler and the judges accompanying him must wait at the second wound bed until the dog has given loud for at least 10 minutes during which time it did not leave the game.

(4) One judge must hide downwind from the game in such a manner that he can observe the dog's behavior at the game but without being seen by the dog. If the dog does not find the game, it may be restarted twice from the fresh wound bed. If the dog has found the game and leaves it, the performance (Dead Game Baying) is "insufficient".

(5) The dog's performance in Dead Game Baying is separate from the leash work on the overnight track (from start of the track to fresh wound bed) and is evaluated separately.

(6) The entire tracking work is rated "not passed" when the dog eats from the carcass.

Paragraph 58

Dead Game Guide (Optional)

(1) The rules for Dead Game Guiding are analogous to those for dead game baying. Working off leash from the fresh wound bed, the dog should proficiently find the carcass and thereafter return without delay to its handler and show with the carried *Bringsel* * or some other specific behavior that it has found the carcass. Before the dog is taken off leash, the handler must inform the judges in what manner his dog will show that it has found the carcass. The dog should then without delay lead its handler to the carcass.

(2) The dog's performance in Dead Game Guiding is separate from the leash work on the overnight track (from start of the track to fresh wound bed) and is evaluated separately.

(3) The entire tracking work is rated "not passed" when the dog eats from the carcass.

* *Bringsel* is a short leather strip attached to the dog's collar

Paragraph 59 Gunshot Soundness in Water

The rules of Paragraph 39 herein apply.

Paragraph 60 Blind Retrieve in Densely Vegetated Water

The rules of Paragraph 40 herein apply.

Paragraph 61 Flushing in Densely Vegetated Water Without Duck

(1) The dog should enter the water upon command and without further coaxing (stone, etc.) independently search the cover.

(2) In this subject, the dog should demonstrate its will to find, strength, endurance and affinity for water; it should also readily follow signals or verbal guidance from its handler. The search should last approximately 10 minutes.

Paragraph 62 Flushing of Duck in Densely Vegetated Water

The rules of Paragraph 41 herein apply.

If the dog has already been tested in this subject and passed, the previous evaluation will be entered as the score for this test. **Name, location and date of test shall be indicated.**

Paragraph 63 Blind Retrieve of Duck from Deep Water

The rules of Paragraph 42 herein apply.

Paragraph 64 Search Under the Gun

*The subjects of Sections 64 (Search under the Gun), 65 (Steadiness to Shot), and 66 (Retrieve Reliability) should be tested **together in one testing phase** when conditions permit.*

- (1) Search Under the Gun is to be tested on suitable and visible terrain. The area to be used for this subject is to be sufficiently large and must be fresh for each dog.
- (2) The dog should search under the gun (up to 30 m/32.8 yds from its handler) and readily accept directions from its handler without much or loud commanding. The dog should search the heavy cover methodically and calmly, allowing its handler to follow him without difficulties and shoot flushed game.
- (3) The dog should not chase flushed game; it should abandon the chase independently or upon a low voice command by the handler.
- (4) When the dog has come in contact with game, it must return to the handler within 15 minutes.

Paragraph 65 Steadiness to Shot

If no opportunity arises to shoot game in front of his dog arises for the handler during the search under the gun, he must fire one shot upon instruction by the judges. The dog should not break at the sound of the shot and should be calm after the shot or upon signal or verbal command by the handler, and continue the search under the gun.

Paragraph 66 Retrieve Reliability

- (1) Feathered game is used for this subject. One piece of feathered game is placed in an area of heavy cover of 50 m x 50 m (54.7 yds x 54.7 yds). The handler and his dog must be out of sight.
- (2) Upon instruction by the judges, the handler is to send his dog upwind to search under the gun. The dog must find the feathered game during the search, retrieve and release it to the handler. The dog should then continue to search calmly under the gun.
- (3) A dog that finds the feathered game but fails to retrieve it, cannot pass the test.

Paragraph 67 Heeling on Leash

*The subjects of Sections 67 (Heeling on Leash), 68 (Heeling off Leash), and 69 (Down Stay) should be tested **together in one testing phase** when conditions permit.*

This subject is best tested while searching young stands of forests. The dog on leash may not hinder the handler in any way; it must, in particular, independently and correctly circle the trees. The handler may not guide his dog with the leash but must have the dog on a loose leash.

Paragraph 68 Heeling Off Leash

The off leash dog should properly follow at the handler's heel upon quiet verbal or inconspicuous signal commands for approximately 80 m (87.5 yds) on a stalking trail without lagging behind or walking ahead.

Paragraph 69 Down Stay

(1) The on or off leash dog heels with its handler to a spot that was previously shown by the judges. At this point, the handler must take his dog off leash and put the dog in a Down Stay. The handler may place one item next to the dog (e.g. leash, backpack, hunting pouch). Loud voice commands are not permitted. All this should be done as quietly as possible, as would be during a regular hunt stalk.

(2) The handler must leave his off leash dog and stalk towards cover where he cannot be seen by the dog. Upon instruction by one judge, the handler is to fire a gun shot or shots, and then return slowly to his dog.

Score	Behavior
7, 8	The dog is rated Very Good when it has remained calmly at its assigned place until the handler returns. The dog is not to be faulted for raising its head, sitting up or standing up in place;
5, 6	The dog is rated Good when it has moved from the assigned place only a few meters and without a command lays down again;
2, 3, 4	The dog is rated Sufficient when it inconspicuously attempts to follow the handler while he is stalking away, but can be prompted by a non-verbal signal from the handler to lay down again and remain quiet, or when the dog gets up and walks towards the handler as soon as it sees him returning from cover;
0, 1	The dog is rated not adequate or insufficient when it whines, barks, persistently leaves its assigned place or when the handler must correct the dog with loud verbal commands.

Paragraph 70 Obedience During the Drive Hunt

Handlers are to be placed like shooters during a forest drive hunt at one side of a thicket. The handlers have their dogs on or off leash, sitting or laying down next to them. While several drivers push through the thicket with customary noise, each of the handlers must fire a shot in sequence. Dogs must remain quiet. They may not whine, bark, jump up, or pull on the leash. The dog is not to be faulted for sitting up.

Paragraph 71 Obedience in the Presence of Split Hoofed Game

(1) When the dog at any point of the test comes in contact with split hoofed game or its fresh tracks while within verbal or signal reach of the handler, it should be prompted through verbal or non-verbal commands by the handler to abstain from chasing.

(2) During the flushing work, the dog should be prompted to abstain from chasing split hoofed game by the handler, the placed shooters or the human scent trail of the placed shooters or should return after a brief period of hunting outside the assigned search area (15 minutes).

(3) When the dog hunts split hoofed game (except wild boar) outside the assigned search area for a period exceeding 15 minutes despite having received audible verbal or visible hand signals from its handler, its score for "Obedience in the Presence of Split Hoofed Game" can be scored at best "not adequate".

(4) When the dog hunts, holds at bay or dispatches game outside the assigned search area that later proves to have been injured, this instance will not be taken into account for the evaluation of "Obedience in the Presence of Split Hoofed Game".

(5) The judging teams should make every effort to give each dog the opportunity to demonstrate its "Obedience in the Presence of Split Hoofed Game".

(6) When the dog has had several opportunities to demonstrate "Obedience in the Presence of Split Hoofed Game", the score is to be the median of all evaluations.

Paragraph 72 General Obedience

The rules of Paragraph 46 herein apply.

Paragraph 73

Work Ethics

The criteria for this subject are the dog's visible pleasure in the work and its desire to cooperate with the handler.

A dog that works without enthusiasm or continues to hunt for itself and must be made to cooperate under pressure does not meet the requirements of hunting activities.

Chapter V

Performance Awards While Hunting

Paragraph 74

General Guidelines

(1) Test results by themselves can only serve as incomplete – if at all – indicators for factors that are relevant for the selective breeding of a hunting dog breed. Reliable indicators can only be found while actually hunting. It is for this reason that Performance Awards acquired while hunting must be given utmost significance.

(2) A critical evaluation is necessary in light of the many available opportunities. It must be ensured that the dog's respective performance(s) is verified by neutral **witnesses** who are neither owner nor breeder nor belong to the handler's family.

(3) Successful completion of the respective "Performance Award While Hunting" must be recorded as a document to be signed by the witnesses and the handler. This document must be submitted within 4 weeks after the performance event through the respective VDW Regional Group chairperson to the VDW Test Director or his assistant. After review, the performance is recognized, a certificate issued and the award designation granted.

(4) The dog must be certified loud on scent (*spurlaut*) before it may acquire the Performance Awards described in Paragraphs 75 through 77.

Paragraph 75

Performance Award on Natural Blood Track

(1) Being a versatile forest dog, the work "After the Shot" is of particular importance to the DW. The blood tracking of split hooved game especially provides additional valuable information of use of nose, perseverance and hardness to the breeder. For this reason, demonstrated performances of excellence are marked with their respective symbols in front of the dog's name.

(2) Available Performance Award Designations (*LN*) are listed below.

(2.1) (:) Performance Award Designation for natural blood tracking on game not capable of defense, such as roe deer, weak deer yearlings and boar yearlings; on leash work for at least 500 m/547 yds (see 4.1 below), plus chase and taking down of game (see 4.2 below), or – regardless of type of game – very difficult and long tracking on leash of at least 1000 m/1094 yds when the game can be killed in its wound bed before the dog has the opportunity to chase, or when the game is already dead.

(2.2.) : Performance Award Designation for natural blood tracking on game capable of defense, such as wild boar (except weak yearlings), red deer (except weak yearlings), mountain goats (except kids), fallow deer, sika deer and mufflon; on leash work for at least 500 m/547 yds (see 4.1 below), plus chase and holding down of game (see 4.3 below).

(3) The dog's performance must be good in all aspects of the work in order to be awarded the designation. The dog may deliver the performance during different events. The performance events must be recorded and confirmed in a document by at least two hunters who do not have to be judges.

(4) Minimum requirements for the individual performances are listed below:

(4.1) **On leash work:** The blood tracks must have aged for at least 3 hours with tracks not visible when there is snow on the ground. The dog is to be started on a long leash precisely at the point where the game was shot. The dog should work the blood track proficiently, should indicate other tracks without working them too long, and should find the game without further delay.

(4.2) **Chase and Taking Down of Game:** When the dog encounters a fresh wound bed of game that is still alive or when the injured game moves in front of the dog, the dog is to be taken off the leash for the chase. The dog should follow and give loud while behind the injured game. The dog should take down roe deer or weak yearlings with a good grip.

(4.3) **Chase and Holding Down of Game:** When the dog is working game capable of defense and therein encounters a fresh wound bed, or when the game moves in front of the dog, the dog should be taken off the leash. The dog should follow the game and give loud; it should hold the game securely at bay and keep it in place until the handler can shoot it dead. Under no circumstances may the dog leave the game and return to the handler.

Paragraph 76

Long Distance Hunter Designation

(1) The coonhound instinct, i.e. the drive of the dog to pursue as far possible the track it has located, is still well preserved in some of our dogs. This holds true in particular for hare tracks where the hare eventually returns to the area near its den. This drive is of particular importance to the forest hunter who hunts wooded land in this manner. He will want a dog that hunts over a long distance, is reliably loud on scent, has a good nose, a strong **will to track** and is **completely focused on the one track**. In other words, a dog with those natural abilities that are of utmost importance in a reliable retriever and blood tracker. Unfortunately, these significant natural abilities are often difficult to determine under test conditions. It may be of great importance to our breed to sustain long distance hunting ability in some of our lines.

(2) Long Distance Hunting can be determined both during the flushing portion of the Utility Test *GP* (see Paragraph 51) and while actually hunting.

(3) The dog is to be taken off leash to begin flushing work. As soon as the dog has flushed a hare, the handler proceeds to the place where he expects the hare to return to ("hare crossroad"). It is crucial that the hare not be shot until it has actually returned; it should not be shot if it accidentally runs into another hunter shortly after it was flushed. It is further crucial that the hare to be shot is indeed the same hare that was flushed and not a different hare that flushed freely from the loud of the dog in chase. The dog must clearly remain on the original track and give loud.

(4) Length of the track and the duration of the dog's work may vary. It will hardly ever take less than 10 minutes. The decisive element for the judges'

evaluation is that there is no doubt that it is the original hare that the dog made to return.

(5) The **Performance (Award) Designation** for the long distance hunter is a second slash \ next to the initial scent loud hunter, making it a double scent loud slash \\. The performance itself is not rated with a score.

(6) If the dog is **not obedient in the presence of split hoofed game, it may not be awarded the "Long Distance Hunter Designation"**. It is the long distance hunter in particular that must be obedient in the presence of split hoofed game (see Paragraph 71).

(7) When the dog has an opportunity while hunting during to demonstrate its long distance hunting ability, the performance must be observed by at least 2 VDW registered judges.

Paragraphs 6 and 7 herein shall be applied analogously. The judges shall compose a brief report which will be submitted without delay to the respective chapter chairperson who will further process the document.

(8) If the reported performance is found to meet the requirements, the VDW Test Director will issue a certification to the handler (Performance Award).

Paragraph 77

Performance Award in the Presence of Wild Boar

(1) The use of suitable dogs is of utmost importance for hunting wild boar. It is in this forum that the DW, as a flushing dog, performs one of its most important jobs.

(2) A well-balanced presence of various natural abilities (mental stability, hardness, sharpness, endurance, hunting intelligence) forms the foundation for the successful hunt of wild boar "before the shot". These natural abilities are crucial for sustaining the breed's performance standards in general. Real hunting situations have shown that, when these natural abilities are paired with practical experience, it produces dogs that play a decisive factor in successful hunts of wild boar.

(3) The performance award designation "S" is granted to identify those dogs that have demonstrated reliable work on wild boar. The dog must meet the following **requirements** in the presence of witnesses during regular hunting activities. The hunted terrain may include public boar parks of at least 75 ha (185.3 acre).

- a) The dog is off leash and sent to flush **independently**. No other dogs or drivers are allowed to work the same area. The area where the dog must **independently** locate the wild boar must concur with the Utility Test (GP) requirements for flushing.
- b) The dog must **scatter** the group of boar when located or respectively, **chase** individual boar **persistently** until it leaves the surrounded area. When boar refuse to move, the dog must continue to **hold down** the game (at least 10 minutes).
- c) During the process of holding down boar, the dog may leave only for a brief period when, for example, the sows are of substantial size and

show no intention of moving, and the dog, after having made contact with the handler, immediately **returns** to the game **and continues to bay**. If the dog is not able to make the boar move despite persistent holding down, the handler may walk towards the area to help his dog. Once the boar have been made to move, the dog must then independently chase the game out of the surrounded area.

- d) The award may not be granted when the dog worked yearlings (without mother) that are lighter than the dog (less than 20 kilos/44 lbs).

(4) The work must be witnessed and verified by at least two hunters, one of whom must be an Association (*JGHV*) Judge.

Paragraph 78 Award from Hardness Test

(1) The German Hunting and Game Protection Laws designate primarily the human hunter as the person who is authorized to kill with a gun predators, poaching ferals and raccoons.

It is an act of ethical hunting when the versatile hunting dog catches a predator and immediately dispatches of it before the hunter has the opportunity to kill it with a gun.

(2) When the above act is witnessed reliably, the respective dog can be registered with the *JGHV* as having achieved the "Hardness Award".

The award must be requested by the Regional Group within 4 weeks from the date that the dog performed the act. The request must be submitted to the Studbook Registry of the *JGHV* using the designated form. Delayed requests will be penalized with a Euro Dollar 25 fine.

The Regional Group chairperson is responsible for verifying the correctness and completeness of the information on the request. He signs and stamps the request. A pre-posted return envelope addressed to the recipient must be included with the request.

Chapter VI Special Tests

Paragraph 79 General Guidelines

Special Tests are defined as:

- Tests not regulated by the VDW Test Regulations, but conducted by VDW Regional Groups, or tests by other organizations in which the DW dog is entered (e.g. Association Tests, see Paragraph 80 below), and
- Test After the Shot (Paragraph 81).

Paragraph 80 Association Tests

(1) When VDW Regional Groups conduct tests that are not regulated by the VDW Test Regulations, they must comply with the respective test regulations.

This applies in particular to Association (*JGHV*) Tests, such as

- **Association Blood Tracking Test** (*VSwP*)
- **Association Hoof Shoe Tracking Test** (*VFSwPO*)
- **Association Test After the Shot** (*VPS*)
- **Retrieve Reliability Test on Natural Wound Track** (*Vbr*) and
- **Retrieve Reliability Test** (*Btr*), as well as
- the guidelines for the award of the **Halt Designation**.

(2) Only registered Association Judges with *JGHV* may judge at Association Tests. Association Blood Tracking Tests (*VSwP*) may be judged only by judges who are recognized by the *JGHV* as blood tracking judges.

(3) In addition to the *JGHV* requirement that test results be reported without delay to the *JGHV* Registrar, the organizing Regional Group, or the test director respectively, the test results must be reported to the VDW Test Director (analogously to Paragraph 14 herein). This requirement is to ensure proper publication in the VDW Newsletter. Registrations in the *DGStB* (German Versatile Dog Registry) and award designations are managed exclusively by the *JGHV* Registrar.

(4) When a handler enters his DW dog at a test which is not conducted by a VDW Regional Group (see Association Tests described above as well as Utility Tests, *Schutzhund* Tests and others) he should report the result for his dog, when possible, through the chairperson of his Regional Group to the VDW Test Director to be recorded by the Breed Book Registrar and for publication in the VDW Newsletter.

The above does not apply to Versatile Utility or Hunting Ability Tests in accordance with German State Laws.

Paragraph 81 **Test After the Shot (*PnS*)**

(1) The Test after the Shot (*PnS*) is a breed specific test held by VDW in which the General Guidelines of Chapter I herein apply analogously, absent the Conformation Description. Paragraph 79 is to be applied to all subjects of the *PnS* that represent Association Test subjects (Association Blood Tracking Test, Retrieve Reliability Test).

(2) Whereas Versatile Ability Tests *EP* and Utility Tests *GP* represent the best starting foundation for the real hunting work, the *PnS* expects an already experienced hunting dog. This test is the greatest challenge to our dogs in terms of their work after the shot. Dogs must be at least 24 months of age and have passed one of the Utility Tests, *GP* or *VGP*, to qualify for the *PnS* Test. Dogs of all hunting breeds may take this test as long as they are registered in a breed registry that is recognized by the *JGHV*, and appear to be physically capable of performing the required tasks.

(3) The Test After the Shot *PnS* comprises 6 subjects:

a) **Blood Tracking:** Association Blood Tracking Test with overnight track (more than 20 hrs) in accordance with the *JGHV* Test Rules on Blood Tracking and Hoof Shoe Tracking.

b) **Hare Drag:** 500 m (547 yds) drag with 4 angles, entire drag in a forest. Weight of hare must be at least 7 pounds (8.4 lbs).

c) **Retrieve Reliability:**

- Fox option: in accordance with the *JGHV* regulations on Retrieve Reliability, two hours prior to the test, the fox is placed at least 100 m (109.4 yds) from the spot where the dog will be taken off leash;
- Hare option: shortly prior to test commencement, a hare is placed in thick cover approximately 50 to 80 m (54.7 to 87.5 yds) from where the dog will be taken off leash. In both cases, the dog must be sent to flush without a fetch command. The dog must independently find, pick up and retrieve the game within a period of time not to exceed 20 minutes.

d) **Retrieve of Feathered Game:** Two birds are placed, not dragged, in a field with high standing cultivation (beets or rape). The field should not be less than 80 m (87.5 yds) wide. One bird is placed in shotgun range, the other in double shotgun range (30 m/32.8 yds and 60 m/65.6 yds respectively). The dog should find the birds while freely searching and retrieve the game. The handler may direct his dog from one side of the field (the side will be assigned by the judges). The two retrieves will be scored separately and their average will determine the final score. If the dog retrieves only one bird, the score may not be better than 2.

e) **Retrieve from Densely Vegetated Water:** The dog must independently search and retrieve a dead duck that has been placed in dense cover at least 20 to 30 m from shore across open water.

f) **Retrieve from Opposite Shore:** A dead duck is dragged for 100 m (109.4 yds) on the opposite shore of a body of water which in this area is at least 50 m (54.7 yds) wide. The initial 5 m (5.5 yds) of the drag run parallel to the shore line. The dog should start trailing the drag, retrieve the duck and bring it to the handler across the water.

(4) The entire test is conducted to duplicate real hunting conditions. The regulations for the Utility Test *GP* (Paragraphs 52 and following herein)

apply analogously to the dog's work on drags, retrieves and in water. Each of the retrieves (test subjects b through f herein) may take a maximum time of 20 minutes, beginning with taking the dog off leash until completion of the retrieve.

(5) The following system applies to the evaluation. Scoring and computing of points follows the Association Utility Test (VGPO) 5-point-system.

Test Subject	Multiplier	Required Points		
		Prize I	Prize II	Prize III
Blood Tracking	6	24	18	12
Hare Drag	4	14	10	8
Retrieve Reliability (fox/hare)	5	15	13	10
Independent Search for Feathered Game	4	16	12	8
Retrieve from Densely Vegetated Water	4	16	12	8
Retrieve from Opposite Shore	5	20	15	10
Required Total Points		105	80	56

Chapter VII

Champion Title

Paragraph 82 DW Champion (DWS)

(1) The VDW recognizes and honors dogs that have demonstrated their outstanding performances in test events and actual hunting situations by awarding the title "DW Champion" (*DWS*). However, the following requirements must be met:

- The dog must have scored Prize I at the Juvenile Test *JP*;
- The dog must have scored at least Prize II at one Versatile Ability Test *EPB* or *EP*;
- The dog must have passed a Utility Test *GP* with a score in flushing of at least 5;
- In addition, the dog must have acquired
 - two of these performance awards during actual hunting: (*/*, (*:*), *:*, *S*, *Vbr*, **);
 - or one of these performance awards: */*, *S*; and must have scored *SW I* or *FS I*;
- The dog must be breed-certified according to the VDW Breeding Regulations.

(2) The title *DWS* is prefixed to the dog's name and its award designations.

(3) The dog's owner must submit a written request for the title *DWS* to the Breed Book Registry.

(4) The DW Newsletter shall publish the award of such title.

Chapter VIII Award Designations and VDW Club Coins

Paragraph 83 VDW Award Designations

The VDW identifies dogs that are of value for the continuation of the breed and have proven themselves to be useful versatile hunting dogs by awarding them the below listed designations. The dogs must be registered in the VDW Breed Book and have demonstrated their natural abilities and performances in official tests or in actual hunting situations.

(1) \ Scent Loud Hunter Designation for hunting loud on scent while tracking hare with a minimum score of "sufficient" in accordance with Paragraph 25 herein.

(2) - Dead Game Bayer Designation for baying in the presence of dead split hoofed game during a Utility Test *GP* with a minimum score of "sufficient" in accordance with Paragraph 57 herein.

(3) | Dead Game Guide for guiding to dead split hoofed game during a Utility Test *GP* with a minimum score of "sufficient" in accordance with Paragraph 58 herein.

(4) / Hardness Designation for independent dispatching of predators while working freely during a regular hunt.

(5) : and (:) (blood drops) for demonstrated natural blood tracking in accordance with Paragraph 75 herein.

(6) \\ Long Distance Hunter Designation for demonstrated long distance hunting on hare (bringing back the game) in accordance with Paragraph 76 herein.

(7) S Wild Boar Designation for demonstrated work on wild boar in accordance with Paragraph 77 herein.

The above designations are then **prefixed** to the dog's name.

Paragraph 84 Award Designations for Special Association Tests

The *JGHV* Test Regulations apply to the Retrieve Reliability on Natural Wound Track Award (designation: **Vbr**), the Retrieve Reliability Test (designation: **Btr**), the Association Blood Tracking Test (designation: **Sw I-III**) and the Association Hoof Shoe Tracking Test (designation: **FS I-III**). The *JGHV* is the granting authority for these awards.

The designations are affixed **behind** the dog's name and breed book number.

Paragraph 85 **DGStB Registration**

DW dogs that have passed a Utility Test *GP* will be registered by the *JGHV* in the *DGStB* (German Versatile Dog Registry). The assigned registration number is printed bold or underlined, and is indicated behind the dog's breed book number.

Example of a possible combination of Award Designations for the fictitious dog "Wachtel vom Wachtelhof"
DWS >: S Wachtel vom Wachtelhof 99-372, 500 Vbr, Btr. Sw I/II

Paragraph 86 **The VDW Coin Award System**

Club coins are awarded for the following test results:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Juvenile Test <i>JP</i>	-	-	Prize I
Versatile Ability Test <i>EPB</i>	-	-	Prize I
Versatile Ability Test <i>EP</i>	-	Prize I	Prize II
Utility Test <i>GP</i>	Prize I	Prize II	Prize III
Blood Tracking <i>VSwp</i>	40 hrs – Sw I	40 hrs – Sw II	40 hrs – Sw III
Hoof Shoe Tracking <i>VFSPÖ</i>	-	20 hrs – Sw I	20 hrs – Sw II
Test After the Shot <i>PnS</i>	Prize I	Prize II	Prize III

Chapter IX

Regulations for Judges

*In accordance with the Regulations on Association Judgeship
as adopted by the JGHV General Meeting on March 20th, 2005*

Paragraph 87

General Guidelines

The merit of Association tests stands in direct relationship to the capability, knowledge and objectivity of the Association Judges. For this reason, reputation and prestige of the German versatile hunting dog movement are inevitably connected to appropriately managing the judgeship issue. Any handler of a versatile hunting dog will gladly accept and place confidence in an Association Judge with character and discernment. For just this reason, it is an urgent necessity to provide a pool of discerning, objective and responsible future judges and to ensure the continued education of appointed Association Judges.

Training and development of Apprentice Judges (*RiAnw.*), and the continued education of appointed Association Judges (*VR*) are governed by the following Regulations on Association Judgeship.

Paragraph 88

Authorization to Train Apprentice Judges

- (1) Every *JGHV* member club under the definition of Paragraph 3(1)1.a-c of the *JGHV* By-laws is entitled to nominate Apprentice Judges and to train them to become Association Judges.
- (2) Every member club which trains Apprentice Judges (*RiAnw.*) must designate an experienced Association Judge as the specialist for judgeship issues. In this capacity, he shall guide and supervise the training of the Apprentice Judges and maintain a list of Apprentice Judges.
- (3) During the entire course of his training, the Apprentice Judge shall be sponsored by the nominating member club. Only in the event of a legitimate reason (e.g. change in physical address) may the Apprentice Judge transfer from his sponsoring Regional Group to another chapter. The chapter chairperson must be notified in advance of such intention; the chairperson in turn informs the club's specialist for judgeship issues. Such transfer must be requested by the Apprentice Judge in advance from the *JGHV* Office.

Paragraph 89 Admission Guidelines

- (1) Anyone who
 - a) has been a member of the nominating member club for a minimum of three years; exceptions subject to approval by the (JGHV) Executive Committee;
 - b) is in possession of at least four annual hunting licenses in sequence; a youth hunting license qualifies;
 - c) has successfully handled within the last four years one or more hunting dog(s), which he himself trained, at one or more spring natural ability test(s) (VJP) and fall natural ability test(s) (HZP), as well as one Association Utility Test (VGP). The same shall apply to special breed clubs;
 - d) subscribes to the Association Publication, *Der Jagdgebrauchshund*;
 - e) has attended within the last three years a judges seminar on „Introduction to Performance Testing, Judging and Versatile Hunting Dog Movement“.may be nominated for Apprentice Judge.
- (2) The respective member clubs may only nominate Apprentice Judges who are likely capable of reaching and supporting a factually correct and objective judgment without regard of the person's status. Apprentice Judges must be practicing hunters with a dog.

Paragraph 90 Registration

- (1) *JGHV Formblatt 52 (designated form)* shall be used for the registration application and submitted to the JGHV Office together with the required documents stated therein.
- (2) Following registration, the Apprentice Judge ID and the JGHV By-laws, and Rules and Regulations are returned to the respective member club which will then issue ID and documents to the Apprentice Judge. No credit will be given for any Apprentice Judge activity prior to registration by the JGHV Office.

Paragraph 91 Training

- (1) The Apprentice Judge must be in possession of all most recent Test Regulations.
- (2) Throughout his apprenticeship, the Apprentice Judge must subscribe to the Association Publication, *Der Jagdgebrauchshund*, and study its contents.
- (3) The minimum training that the Apprentice Judge shall receive will depend on the specialty judging teams in which he has judged. The Apprentice Judge must have practiced, each time under different senior judges, in all specialty judging teams in which he will judge in the future, as a minimum

at two each of these types of tests, *VJP (JP)*, *HZP (EP/EPB)* and *VGP (GP)*. The same shall apply to special breed clubs.

He shall practice at least at one each of these tests organized by a different VDW Regional Group. He shall at a minimum report on four dogs per specialty judging team and type of test. His involvement in the test shall be such that he can observe and report on the entire test; limiting his assignment to certain specialty judging teams must be avoided. He is to be included at least once in the preparations and execution of one of these tests; this activity shall be documented.

- (4) A judge's book shall be delivered to the Apprentice Judge at each test. These books are to be kept until appointment.
- (5) At tests where judging is done by specialty performance judges, the Apprentice Judge shall be assigned in such manner that he can evaluate at least two dogs during the entire test course.
- (6) As soon as one test subject has been completed, the Apprentice Judge shall upon request by the senior judge be the first to report his observations to the judging team, including a judgment on the performance and the reasons for the judgment. As part of the open judging, the Apprentice Judge must on one occasion at each test describe to the handlers his evaluation and judgment of a dog.
- (7) Within two weeks from the test, a duplicate test report is to be completed by the Apprentice Judge and sent with the Apprentice Judge ID to the senior judge, or respectively, to the senior judges of each specialty judging team and the test director. The senior judge shall critique the report and return this copy to the Apprentice Judge. Confirmation on the Apprentice Judge ID by the senior judge, or respectively by the test director in tests where judging is done by specialty judging teams, must be withheld until the Apprentice Judge report has been received. In the event that the report is delayed without prior notice, the confirmation for the test attendance may be declined. Confirmation of a judging activity on an Apprentice Judge ID not registered with the *JGHV* Office is prohibited.
- (8) The senior judge (or respectively, the senior judges of specialty judging teams) shall without delay review the report and use *JGHV Formblatt 53* (designated form) to write his (their) comments. Report and evaluation of the Apprentice Judge shall thereafter be sent to the specialist for judgeship issues of the Regional Group.
The Apprentice Judge ID and one copy of the report with comments are sent to the Apprentice Judge. The Apprentice Judge shall provide pre-posted envelopes.
- (9) Following his registration, the Apprentice Judge must attend at least one continued education seminar and have the attendance documented on his Apprentice Judge ID. The specialist for judge development shall be notified in writing by the organizing Regional Groups of continued education seminars at least eight weeks prior to the event.

- (10) The sponsoring club or the *JGHV* Executive Committee may request additional training, such as practicing at more tests etc.
- (11) The application for Association Judge appointment must be submitted within four years after registration as Apprentice Judge. Exceptions thereto, which must be submitted prior to the expiration, shall be subject to a final decision by the *JGHV* Executive Committee.
- (12) The party responsible for judgeship issues of the Regional Group sponsoring the Apprentice Judge shall after each (test) activity by the Apprentice Judge review the report for proper and plausible completion, and shall, where indicated, initiate suitable action in coordination with the senior judge and the Apprentice Judge.
In the event that the appointment of the Apprentice Judge is declined, he shall be so informed with the reasons thereto as soon as possible by written statement.

Paragraph 92 Appointment

- (1) Apprentice Judges are appointed Association Judges by the *JGHV* Executive Committee upon recommendation of the sponsoring club.
In their capacity as Association Judges, they are authorized to judge any test subject matter for which they have received the appointment. Additional test categories may be approved for judging under the guidelines of these regulations, in accordance with Paragraphs 88 through 92. It will be required that the Association Judge has successfully handled a hunting dog in accordance with Paragraph 2(1) c) during the last four years, and that his sponsoring club has applied to the *JGHV* Office for his registration as an Apprentice Judge to include the additional test categories.
VJP (JP), *HZP (EP/EPB)* and *VGP (GP)* tests may be judged only by those judges who are authorized to judge the whole test spectrum. The requirements of Paragraphs 88 and 90 shall apply accordingly.
- (2) After the Apprentice Judge training is completed, the sponsoring club shall submit to the *JGHV* Office the request for appointment as Association Judge, using *Formblatt* 54 (designated form).
- (3) The following documents shall be included with the request:
- a) Apprentice Judge ID;
 - b) reports by the Apprentice Judge and evaluations by the senior judges;
 - c) proof of attending a continued education seminar of which the *JGHV* Office had been properly notified (see Paragraph 91 [9]);
 - d) after the training has been completed, the sponsoring club shall use the appropriate form to evaluate the candidate in a language of substance and attach this form to the request for appointment.
- (4) The request for appointment as Association Judge, complete with all required documents, must be received by the *JGHV* Office by 1st of June or 1st of December of each calendar year.

In order to meet the above deadline, the request must be in the possession of the specialist for judgeship by May 20th, and November 20th, respectively.

- (5) The *JGHV* Executive Committee shall decide on appointments applications.
- (6) The names of all newly appointed Association Judges will be announced in the Association Publication, *Der Jagdgebrauchshund*, and the names shall be added to the *JGHV* judges' list.

Paragraph 93 Legal Recourse

- (1) In the event that the club responsible for requesting the appointment refuses to do so, the Apprentice Judge may address the *JGHV* Executive Committee which shall render a decision after hearing the parties (including written statements by way of correspondence).
- (2) In the event that the *JGHV* Executive Committee declines the appointment, an appeal to the *JGHV* Disciplinary Committee may be made. Such appeal must be filed with the *JGHV* Office within 4 weeks of the decision (postmarked).

Paragraph 94 Association Blood Tracking Judges

- (1) Only Association Blood Tracking Judges may judge at Association Blood Tracking tests (*VSwP*) or Association Hoof Shoe Tracking Test (*VFSP*). Such judges are noted with the affix "Sw" on the judges' list.
- (2) Requirements for appointment
 - a) Association Judge
 - b) Successful handling at a *VSwP* of a dog trained by him (does not apply to accredited judges of the breeds *Hann. Schweisshunde*, *Bay. Gebirgsschweisshunde*, *Alpenländische Dachsbracken* and *Bracken* of the German Bloodhound Club - *DBV*)
 - c) Two practices at a *VSwP*, including preparations for the test and participating in the track laying for the test.
 - d) Completion of an Apprentice Judge report (duplicate) within two weeks. The report shall be sent to the respective senior judge who will critique the report using the designated form and submit the report in the attached pre-stamped envelope to the sponsoring VDW Regional Group.
 - e) The Apprentice Judge shall report on a minimum of four dogs.
- (3) The respective member club files with the *JGHV* Office an informal request for appointment as Blood Tracking Judge, using *Formblatt* 55 (designated form). The request shall include the Apprentice Judge reports and the comments by the senior judges, and a copy of the *VSwP* certificate by the *JGHV* Registry.

- (4) Not more than 4 years may elapse between the last successful handling of a dog at a *VSwP* and the request for appointment as blood tracking judge.

Paragraph 95 Association Judges

- (1) The duties of an Association Judge are inherent to his special position. In particular, he is expected to comply in every aspect with the Test Rules and Regulations, demonstrate the willingness to further his education and, as a hunter and dog handler, conduct himself in an exemplary manner. Association Judges must be members of an association club in accordance with Paragraph 3 (1) a-c of the *JGHV* By-laws and always be in possession of a hunting license.
- (2) In the event that one of the above requirements is no longer met, the capacity as judge shall be suspended and expire after a period of three years. The suspension of the judge capacity, as well as any reinstatement, shall be announced in the Association Publication.
- (3) The Association Judge capacity shall expire when one of the following conditions occur:
- a) Resignation;
 - b) Revocation;
 - c) After the capacity as Association Judge has been suspended for a period of 3 years.
- (4) The Association Judge capacity shall be suspended for as long as the judge's hunting license is legally revoked. In cases where the revocation of the hunting license is suspected, the respective judge shall be under obligation to prove towards the *JGHV* Administration that he is in possession of a valid hunting license. In the event that he fails to do so, it shall be assumed that his hunting license has been revoked.
- (5) An Association Judge is authorized to judge at Association Tests only if his name appears in the current *JGHV* judges' list.
- (6) An Association Judge must attend a continued education seminar at least once every 4 years or successfully handle through the tests a dog that he trained himself. This must be documented to the specialist for judgeship issues by the seminar attendance list or respectively, a copy of the test certificate.

(6) Eyes

Medium brown, as dark as possible; medium size, set in slightly oblique, neither protruding nor deep set, with tight fitting lids, not showing any of the third eyelid; hair on rims of eyelids.

(7) Ears

Set on high and broad; flat without any twist, hanging directly behind eye; not thick, fleshy or flabby. Evenly furnished with hair reaching over inner edge. Laid forward, ear tips reach the nose.

(8) Neck

Strong with nape of neck being especially well muscled. Merging with withers in an obtuse angle. No visible loose throat skin at beginning and widening towards chest without dewlap.

(9) Body

Topline:	Straight in all parts of the body, merging well into each other. Croup slightly sloping, tail carried in continuation with back or slightly downwards.
Withers:	Strong and well defined.
Back:	Short and firm, without any dip behind withers.
Loins:	Strongly muscled, therefore broad in appearance.
Croup:	Slightly sloping, never overbuilt. Slightly below height of withers.
Chest:	Oval, viewed from front. Viewed from side, reaching to below elbow joint. Ribcage long, well sprung, neither barrel shaped nor flat.
Underline and belly:	Tucked up moderately from last (false) rib to rear. Underside also covered as much as possible by protective hair and undercoat.

(10) Tail

In repose, carried straight in continuation of topline or downwards. When alert or excited, carried slightly upwards and wagging vividly. To avoid injury, the tail should be shortened (docked) by not more than one third during the first three days after birth. In countries where docking is not permitted, the tail can be left in its natural state.

(11) Forequarters

General:	Viewed from the front, straight and parallel; viewed from the side, legs set well under body, standing vertical to ground. Good angulation.
Shoulder:	Strongly muscled. Shoulder blade well laid back.
Upper arm:	In movement, sliding along close to chest.
Elbows:	Close to body, turning neither in nor out.
Forearm:	Straight, connection with joints not rickety.
Carpal Joint:	Strong.

Pastern:	Set slightly forward.
Front feet:	Spoon shaped with well-knit toes; cat- or harefoot undesirable. Tough, resistant, well pigmented pads and strong nails which wear down naturally.

(12) Hindquarters

General:	Viewed from the side, good angulation in stifle and hock joints. Viewed from the rear, straight and parallel, neither bow-legged nor cow hocked; strong bones.
Upper thigh:	Broad and very muscular, good angulation between pelvis and upper thigh.
Stifle:	Strong with good angulation between upper and lower thigh.
Lower thigh:	Long, muscular, sinewy.
Hock joint:	Strong.
Hock:	Short. Vertical stance.
Hind feet:	Same as front feet.

(13) Gait/Movement

Fluent and ground covering. Legs straight and parallel sliding closely along the body.

(14) Skin

Coarse and close fitting, no folds and pigmentation.

(15) Coat

Hair: Strong, close fitting, mostly wavy, sometimes curly (astrakhan) or smooth long coat, with thick undercoat. Hair not too long, much less thin or even silky. On nape, leathers and croup, often curly. Rearsides of legs and tail, well feathered. Frequently frill on neck (jabot). Also well coated on belly. Muzzle and cranial region with short and dense hair. The ears are covered by curls or dense, wavy hair, reaching beyond the inner edge. Interdigital gaps have dense but not too long hair.

Color: The Deutscher Wachtelhund is bred in two color varieties:

- Solid brown, and more seldom also red*; often with white or ticked markings on chest and toes.
- Brown roan, more seldom red* roan. Basic colors are brown or red* hair which is closely mixed with white hair; often with the head brown or red*, as well as with patches or a saddle over the whole back. This color variety also includes the pied color patterns with white as basic color and large brown or red* patches as well as the tiger pattern where the white basic color is in addition sprinkled or ticked with clusters of brown or red* hair, even when bred from solid color parents.

In both colors, red* markings («Brand») over eyes, on muzzle, legs and around vent can occur.

* Red = includes all shades of red (fox, roe deer or deer red).

(16) Faults

Any departure from the aforementioned points should be considered a fault and the rating of which shall be in exact proportion to its severity, such as

- Marked stop;
- Lips too deep, not taut;
- Missing of one first premolar (P1);
- Eyelids not closely fitting;
- Ear channels too narrow (disposition for ear infections);
- Barrel chest;
- High on leg or fine boned;
- Thin, sparse or silky coat; sparsely coated belly. Tips of ears or tip of tail leathery;
- Slightly over or under in size or weight.

(17) Serious Faults

- Skin abnormalities: Dermatitis, atopy;
- Missing teeth (except one P1 or S).
- Eliminating Faults:
- Mental instability, gun or game shyness;
- Severe bite faults (over-or undershot, wry mouth);
- Entropion, ectropion;
- Black coat.

N.B.: Male animals must have two testicles that appear to be normally developed and fully descended into the scrotum.

Appendix B

Citation from the Regulation on Association Hoof Shoe Tracking Tests (VFSPÖ)

Laying Tracks With Hoof Shoe

- as adopted by the JGHV General Meeting on March 23rd, 2003 –

Paragraph 8

- (1) Hoof Shoe Tracking Tests should be conducted only in large forests with good split hoofed game presence which through fresh tracks provide the appropriate level of difficulty for each dog in the test.
- (2) The tracks must be laid in the forest, including existing clearances and timbered areas and thickets. Tracks may be laid from the starting point for up to 100 m on fields, meadows and similar terrain.
- (3) The minimum length of a track must be 1000 m (1094 yds) with all tracks being at least 300 m (328 yds) apart in all places.
- (4) The track course must be laid through varying cover and overall should be slightly winding. Three obtuse right angles must be incorporated into the track. Four wound beds (stomping down ground, blood) must be incorporated into the course to allow the dog to signal the find of moving wounded game.
- (5) At least one back-up track must be laid for each test (Overnight 20 hrs Track and Overnight 40-hrs Track).

Paragraph 9

- (1) The tracks are laid with hoof shoes. The shoes must be designed in such manner that the track layer's shoes do not contact the ground. The hoofs must be fresh (or freshly frozen) and be of the same game species. The two hoofs used in one pair of shoes must be from the same piece of game. They may not be used again to test another dog. The test announcement must specify the type of game species used.
The tracks must be laid using blood from hoofed game only; during the test, only blood of the species from which the hoofs are used may be used. Whenever possible, blood and hoofs should be from the same piece of game that is being placed at the end of the track.
- (2) Not more than 0.1 liter of blood may be used for one track.
- (3) The use of chemical preservatives is not permitted. Fresh blood that was frozen is permissible.

- (4) The tracks must have aged over night; the minimum aging periods are 20 hours, or 40 hrs respectively.
- (5) The ground must be clear of snow when the tracks are laid.

Paragraph 10

- (1) Selecting track course and track laying are done in one phase. One judge of the respective group must participate in the laying of the track and is responsible for the proper procedure.
- (2) The judging team must have a clear understanding of the track course throughout the test. When markings are necessary to identify the tracks, they must be done inconspicuously enough where they are visible only to the judges.
- (3) The place where the hunter shot and wounded the game is marked with the respective sign; a piece of paper is attached to the nearest tree with the track number and group as well as the date and time when the track laying began. The writing must be in water-proof ink. The place where the game was shot and wounded must be marked by blood and hair from the bullet entry wound, and the respective broken twig symbol.
- (4) For the initial 50 m (54.7 yds) of the track from the start, blood will be dripped with decreasing intensity; from this point forward, the track will be clear of blood, except for the 4 wound beds where the remainder of the blood will be used. It is permissible to step with the hoof shoes into the start area and the wound beds.
- (5) The track layer must always be the last person to walk the course.

Paragraph 11

The end of the track is made visible to the carcass carrier by marking the trunk of a tree on all sides with color at approximately chest level. The end of each track must further be identified by writing on a piece of paper in wipe proof ink the number of track and group.

Appendix C

Citation from the Regulations on Association Utility Tests (JGHV – VGPO 2000) Special Judging Group Water Work General Guidelines

Paragraph 60

Ethical waterfowl hunting in compliance with animal protection laws under Paragraph 1(2) of the German Federal Hunting Law and the German States' individual regulations contained in the respective State Hunting Rules requires the use of reliable hunting dogs.

The test subject Water Work is aimed at preparing the hunting dog for its future task in hunting activities, especially for the search and find of sick water fowl or water fowl that has fallen dead into water, to demonstrate this preparation by means of a test and to document the result for future breeding.

To achieve the purpose of the water work and to adhere to animal protection laws in the organization of tests, the following guidelines must be complied with when using live ducks.

Paragraph 61 General Compliance

(1) The following principles of Chapter A, General Guidelines, are binding on all member clubs that organize tests with search behind live duck, including the compliance with the regulations of the respective German State where the test is conducted.

(2) The principles also apply to water training days organized by the member clubs; in addition, it must be ensured that each dog does not work on more than three ducks total.

(3) When these principles are violated, willfully or through gross negligence, the party shall be excluded immediately from any further training or testing activities. Notwithstanding any persecution for criminal behavior or misconduct, as well as internal disciplinary action by the JGHV Association.

Paragraph 62 Bodies of Water

The body of water in a test must be of a certain size (at least 0.25 ha/0.62 acres), certain depth and width in parts of 6 m/20 ft, its depth (the dog must swim) which must be deep, and cover (approximately 500 qm/598 square yards), providing the duck with opportunities to escape.

Paragraph 63 Responsible Parties

- (1) For each test, the organizing member club shall designate a person responsible for the strict compliance with each and every stipulation listed below.
- (2) Apart from the person described above, the organizing member club shall also be responsible for strict compliance with these stipulations.

Paragraph 64 Ducks

- (1) Only fully grown mallards may be used for the water work. The method after Professor Müller must be applied for making these ducks temporarily flightless (paper cuff over individual primaries of one wing).
- (2) The ducks must have been introduced to water and cover while being reared and kept; in other words, they must know how to swim, dive and hide in cover. Shortly before the test, the ducks must be able to oil their feathers.

Paragraph 65

- (1) In as much as it is possible to keep ducks temporarily in a domesticated environment, these may not be transported to the test water until shortly before the test where they shall be kept with no exposure to test activities.
- (2) The test water work with one duck may not exceed 15 minutes. Sight chases are undesirable and must be terminated as soon as possible.
- (3) When a dog retrieves a duck that is still alive, it must be killed immediately in a sportsmanlike manner.
- (4) Dead and live ducks are to be kept separately.
- (5) The container with the ducks is to be placed where the dog under evaluation cannot find them.

Paragraph 66 Nesting Season

Water training and water work tests may only be conducted outside the nesting season.

Paragraph 67 Requirements for Complete Water Testing

The dog may not be tested behind the live duck until it has successfully demonstrated the test portions water gun sensitivity, flushing of live duck and blind retrieve of a dead duck from cover.

Paragraph 68 Dogs

- (1) Every handler must be in possession of a valid hunting license. Exceptions may be made only on grounds of special hunting or breeding related reasons. The reasons must be founded.
- (2) Dogs that have failed in any of the subjects listed in Paragraph 67 above, or that have demonstrated gun or game shyness at this particular test may not continue the test.
- (3) One experienced and successfully tested dog must be available at each test to search for the wounded waterfowl when necessary.
- (4) In general, there shall be not more than one duck per dog. The use of an additional duck shall only be permitted when the dog could not be tested on the duck first released (for example, when the duck prematurely escapes by flight).
- (5) Dogs that have been tested in the subject "Flushing of Live Duck in Densely Vegetated Water" and passed this category with at least "sufficient", may not be tested again in this category.
This rule does not apply to select breed or international tests (*Hegewald, IKP* etc.)
- (6) When the dog fails the water test, it may repeat the test one time.
- (7) The predicate achieved during the first such test shall be copied into the score sheets of any future tests, with the remark * as per test on A photocopy of the score sheet shall be submitted to the test director with the entry form.
- (8) Each test result, with predicate (and points where applicable), in the subject "Flushing of Live Duck in Densely Vegetated Water" shall be recorded separately from the overall test results in the dog's pedigree.