

## Companion Dog Test (Begleithundeprüfung-BHP)

<b>Time Limit/Seasonal Restriction:</b>	Unlimited – none
<b>Entry requirements:</b>	All dogs, no age restrictions
<b>Entry limits:</b>	Maximum of 12 dogs per judge
<b>Judge:</b>	The test shall be judged by a judge with BHP certification
<b>Judge's Certification:</b>	The certification requires two apprenticeships and one final test. One apprenticeship must be a BHP and one a BHPS. A minimum of 4 teams must have participated. Each apprenticeship shall be served under a different judge with a written report by both apprentice and judge submitted to the appropriate authority [country specific - such as a Committee or Chairperson]

**The judge shall remain neutral!**

### **General**

1. The test can be conducted year-round, anywhere on suitable terrain, except on snow and ice.
2. With each change of motion or posture the handler is allowed to give an appropriate command. Constant talking to the dog shall not be allowed.
3. Repetitions of this test are permitted but not on the same day.
4. The test shall be taken as one unit as there are no individual sections.
5. Every dog with a passing score will receive a certificate.
6. If the entire test is completed with a minimum score of 3 or higher in each exercise, additionally a recognition award (AKZ - Ausbildungskennzeichen) in the form of a pin will be awarded. This corresponds to a success rate of ca. 75%.
7. Aggression shall result in disqualification.
8. Motivational aids, such as treats or toys etc., are **not** permissible. The dog may be rewarded upon completion of an exercise.
9. Bitches in heat are permissible, but may only enter the testing area last (prior to change of location) to complete the task. During the 'Down-Stay' the group shall be comprised of all bitches.

## 1 Obedience (BHP 1)

### 1.1 Heeling

This exercise starts from the basic position (choice of left or right) and by signaling readiness to the judge.

The handler begins with the pole course (a square of 4 poles or similar). The dog may be leashed or unleashed. Afterwards he walks ca. 30 meters with the dog heeling off leash. Thereafter three jumps (dimensions: ca. 30 x 100 cm) shall be cleared. Then the handler stops, leashes the dog and crisscrosses through an informal group of people (at least 6 people, some with dogs) until the judge signals the end of the exercise.

The entire exercise may be performed off lead. However, the dog should heel next to his handler without constant reminders and should make a short but visible halt after the obstacles before approaching the group of people. Each of the four poles shall be bypassed so the dog is between the handler and the pole.

Instead of poles, trees may be used, but not in a slalom fashion. The obstacles may also be boxes (ca. 30 x 30 x 100 cm) or tree logs.

#### Multiplier [Fachwertziffer]:

Heeling	Leashed*	2
	Unleashed	5

[\* except the 30 meters unleashed]

### 1.2 Recall

The dog handler unleashes the dog upon direction of the judge and lets it run free for a while (distance about 30 – 50 meters). The judge shall determine when the distance between handler and dog is sufficient. If the dog does not move away from the handler then, upon direction of the judge, the handler will walk with the unleashed dog to a designated spot ca. 50 meters away. The dog sits down and stays while the handler comes back to the starting point and then, upon direction of the judge, calls the dog.

The recall may be performed with or without a Halt, regardless of the dog being sent away or dropped off.

- Recall with Halt
- Recall without Halt

The handler must announce beforehand which variant he/she chooses!

The dog shall return swiftly to the handler. During the Recall with Halt the judge shall decide when the command Halt shall occur.

#### Multipliers [Fachwertziffer]:

Recall, sending the dog off	5
Recall, dropping the dog off	3
Recall with Halt, sending the dog off	10
Recall with Halt, dropping the dog off	8

### 1.3 Down-Stay

The dogs will be tested in an area with clear view in groups of up to 4. The dogs will be put in a down-stay position at about 5 meters' distance from each other leashed or unleashed. They may lie on a personal blanket. The dog may perform the Down-Stay with or without its collar.

The handlers retreat all together approximately 50 meters. Visual contact is allowed. The dogs may raise their heads or sit up, but not move more than 1 meter away from the designated spot. If they continuously bark or whine the performance will be judged as unsatisfactory.

The Down-Stay shall last 5 minutes. During that time a dog that is not participating in the test shall walk past the dogs at a distance of about 5 meters (back and forth).

#### Multipliers [Fachwertziffer]:

Down-Stay leashed	2
Down-Stay unleashed	5

### 1.4 Reaction to Noise

For this exercise, the dog moves unleashed around the area, at a distance of at least 10m from the handler. An assistant stands approximately 10m away from the dog and bangs a metal hammer hard against a hanging steel pipe (9cm x 30cm, x 0.4cm).

Dogs that show fear will be tested again after 30 minutes. If the dogs run away from the noise or attempt to hide this exercise will be judged as unsatisfactory. The assistant shall

#### Multiplier [Fachwertziffer]:

Reaction to Noise	2
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### 1.5 Reaction to People

The handler positions him/herself in the middle of a circle comprised of at least 6 people and unleashes his/her dog **without a word**.

The circle of people moves slowly and non-threateningly towards the center all the way up to the dog. Then the circle opens up again.

The second time the people move faster and clap their hands but also non-threateningly again all the way up to the dog.

The dog is allowed to leave the circle but not show flight reaction.

#### Multiplier [Fachwertziffer]:

Reaction to People	5
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### 1.6 Reaction to Traffic

The dog's behavior in traffic is tested by having the handler walk with his dog loosely leashed on the sidewalk with the dog always on the side away from traffic.

1. A bicycle rider passes the handler and dog very close, ringing the warning bell.
2. A pedestrian approaches the handler from the front and opens an umbrella next to the dog with the tip pointing towards the sky. He/she opens a newspaper and poses a question to the handler.
3. The handler crosses a street. The dog should noticeably stop when the handler stops. A Sit is not required.
4. Traffic is not allowed to be hindered.
5. The dog shall act relaxed and calm towards pedestrians and traffic. He should follow his handler willingly. The dog may not show any sign of fear or aggression when the umbrella opens.

**Multiplifier [Fachwertziffer]:**

Reaction to Traffic

5

## **2 Tracking of Handler and Waiting (BHP 2)**

### **2.1 Tracking of Handler**

To test the search for the handler ability, the handler walks together with an assistant about 300 meters with two 90-degree turns. Both hide at the end of the track and have to remain quiet.

The dog shall not be able to see his handler depart.

As soon as the handler is hidden the dog is set on the marked starting point of the line. The dog has to work the line quickly. However, for judging the performance, it is solely important if the dog finds his handler. The manner often relies on the wind conditions. The dog has found the handler when the handler can grab the dog. Should the dog run off afterwards and explore the area, then this shall no longer count as part of the exercise (the dog is under evaluation and not the handler!). The judge can restart the dog back at the starting point of the line three times at most.

Each participating dog shall work a fresh line. The distance between the individual lines shall prohibit any overlaps.

**Multiplifier [Fachwertziffer]:**

Tracking of Handler

5

### **2.2 Waiting**

The dog shall be put in a Down-Stay outside of a store his handler intends to enter. He will be tied near the entrance. The dog shall wait for 5 minutes with distractions.

The following distractions shall be tested:

- a) Jogger
- b) Bicycle Rider
- c) Person with dog

If there is already plenty of public traffic occurring at the store, additional distractions may be waived. However, a dog distraction shall always be necessary.

If the dog constantly and loudly barks or whines his performance is judged as unsatisfactory. He may also not pull on the leash, which may not exceed 1m.

**Multiplier [Fachwertziffer]:**

Waiting 5

**3 Water Retrieval (BHP 3)**

The dog shall retrieve an object from standing or slow flowing water.

A floating object shall be thrown about 6-8 meters into deep water. While the object is in the air, the dog shall sit or stand next to his handler, until he receives the command to retrieve after the object has hit the water.

The dog shall retrieve this object back to shore in the vicinity of his handler. This shall be accomplished voluntarily. A one-time repetition is permitted, as well as encouragement by the handler, however it will result in point deductions. If a second attempt is negative as well, the exercise shall be judged as unsatisfactory.

Due to safety concerns, dog collars and any rope or twine tied to the floating object shall be forbidden.

**Multipliers [Fachwertziffer]:**

Attitude Towards Water 6  
Retrieving out of Deep Water 4

**Award of Performance Scores [Lesitungsnoten]**

Extra prompting or repeated commands by the handler will result in a deduction of points.

Performance Scores [Leistungsnote] as follows:

<b>Rating</b>	<b>Score</b>
Sehr gut (very good)	4
Gut (good)	3
Genügend (satisfactory)	2
Mangelhaft (insufficient)	1
Ungenügend (unsatisfactory)	0

**Scoring Formula (Points)**

Score x Multiplier = Points

[Leistungsnote x Fachwertziffer = Leistungspunkte]

**Ranking BHP**

In order to earn a recognition pin (AKZ - Ausbildungskennzeichen) a minimum score of 3 or higher in each exercise is required. This corresponds to a success rate of at least 75%.

The ranking is determined solely on the total points.

In the case of discrepancies with translations of these testing regulations, the German text is authoritative.

These testing regulations were approved at the WUT Conference in Malaga, Spain

Malaga, Spain 11.02.2017