

Best Practices

Vermont Veterinary Medical Association Animal Welfare Committee

Included in this document:

- Medical Flow Chart for Cats and Dogs Entering Animal Shelters
- Adoption Criteria Points
- Dog Intake Profile
- Manual for Behavioral Evaluation

Medical Flow Chart for Cats and Dogs Entering Animal Shelters [Proposed by AWC April 2008]

The VVMA recognizes that Vermont has many diverse communities and thereby diverse animal shelters; budgets and mission/core values may vary greatly. These are general guidelines for the timing of medical and surgical procedures for shelter animals and should be adjusted to suit individual shelters, their communities, and individual animal needs.

Upon arrival: animals (stray or relinquished) should be examined by trained shelter personnel. It is ideal to have a separate intake area where animals stay for 5 days after arrival as well as a quarantine/isolation area for any sick/symptomatic animals.

- Scan for microchip and initiate owner tracking for stray pets who have microchips or record microchip number for relinquished pets for future use.
- Assess general physical condition
 1. Appears healthy
 2. Needs veterinary care
 - a. Critical: any life-threatening, painful, or serious condition needing immediate treatment including weakness, dehydration, emaciation, low or high body temperature, neurological signs (handle with caution as animal could potentially have rabies), severe wounds (separate note about bite wounds below), bleeding, difficulty breathing, eye injury, bloat. Contact shelter or local veterinarian for further assessment and care plan for animal ASAP.
 - b. Non-critical: any other non-life-threatening condition needing treatment including fleas, ear mites, ear infections, contagious illnesses, skin abnormalities, minor wounds, dental disease. Treat any of these more minor illnesses to maintain the comfort of the animal and minimize spread of contagious afflictions to healthy shelter animals.
- Animals with bite wounds of unknown origin and no vaccine history should be held in quarantine for the established stray period then euthanized (or held for 6 months with permission of the Vermont State Veterinarian). Follow Vermont Rabies guidelines if any human bite occurred from a rabies status unknown or rabies-suspect

animal (VT Rabies hotline 1-800-4-RABIES). Shelter personnel who are not vaccinated for rabies should not handle these animals.

- Deworm dogs and cats with Pyrantel pamoate (1ml per 10 pounds body weight or at dose prescribed by shelter veterinarian) on arrival and minimally repeat 2 weeks later. For dogs and cats in shared areas, dose should be repeated every 2 weeks for duration of stay.
- Treat ectoparasites: fleas (all animals best), ear mites and mange if present per shelter veterinarian protocol.
- For healthy animals, the following vaccinations should be administered ASAP to begin animal's immune response:
 - Cats: feline distemper combination (modified live virus, injectable, +/-intranasal)
 - Dogs: distemper/parvo/adenovirus combination, bordetella intranasal

First weeks or once stray hold period is complete, assess adoptability and long-term health status.

- Behavioral assessment (Lisa Nelson's (pending) or other published behavioral assessment tool) with emphasis on human safety.
- Re-assess health and age for chronic or debilitating conditions that will negatively impact that pet's quality of life. Will the future owner be able to manage these and keep the pet comfortable and healthy?
- Further deworming or fecal exam if diarrhea, loose stool, vomiting, weight loss.

Before animals are available for adoption or leave shelter with new owners:

- Spay or neuter
- Administer Rabies vaccine (12 weeks of age minimum) unless valid vaccination certificate was provided with relinquished animal.
- Blood test for life-threatening or life-limiting disease and have shelter policy as to whether pets who test positive are treated for disease, euthanized for disease, or adopted with new owner taking responsibility for treating or managing condition.
 - Cats: leukemia test +/- FIV test
 - Dogs: heartworm test and give heartworm preventative monthly for duration of stay at shelter if negative result (many dogs are potentially from heartworm endemic areas) +/- tickborne disease status
- Examination by veterinarian (if pet has not already been seen by veterinarian) so that any health or behavioral problems can be fully disclosed (overweight, dental disease, heart murmur, arthritis, etc.) at adoption. Alternately, issue certificate for veterinary exam and the animal should be disclosed as having unknown health status.

Additional good management suggestions:

- Microchip all animals at adoption.
- Permanent spay/neuter mark if not microchipped.
- Follow-up call or survey after adoption.
- Remember that shelters should exist for temporary housing of animals. Long-term shelter life is not humane for animals and it prevents other animals from gaining access to "shelter" when a shelter is full.

**ADOPTION CRITERIA POINTS:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING**

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Dog's Name: _____ A# _____ M N F S Breed: _____ Age: _____	TOTAL SCORE:	
INTAKE HISTORY		Intake Sub-total
NO INTAKE HISTORY AVAILABLE		+ 3
AGGRESSION:		
<i>Attack or uninhibited bite</i> resulting in severe injury or death to a person		+ 20
<i>Show teeth, growl - Adults</i>		+ 6
<i>Snap - Adults</i>		+ 8
<i>Bite - Adults</i>		+ 12
<i>Show teeth, growl – Children</i>		+ 8
<i>Snap – Children</i>		+ 10
<i>Bite – Children</i>		+ 14
<i>Show teeth, growl - Veterinarian ONLY</i>		+ 0
<i>Snap - Veterinarian ONLY</i>		+ 2
<i>Bite - Veterinarian ONLY</i>		+ 3
<i>Bite to a person</i> while breaking up a dog fight, result of severe pain or threat to owner or dog		+ 5
<i>Show teeth, growl - Dogs</i>		+ 1
<i>Snap - Dogs</i>		+ 2
<i>Bite - Dogs</i>		+ 3
<i>Attack</i> resulting in severe injury or death to a dog		+ 15
<i>Show teeth, growl - Another animal species</i>		+ 0
<i>Snap - Another animal species</i>		+ 0
<i>Bite - Another animal species</i>		+ 1
<i>Attack</i> resulting in severe injury or death to another animal species		+ 10
OTHER BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS:		
Barking, destructive, house soiling when left alone		+ 1
Dog returned 2 or more times for house soiling (if over 6 months of age)		+ 1
Dog returned 2 or more times for behavioral reasons other than house soiling		+ 2
Chasing cars, motorcycles, joggers, cyclists, skateboarders		+ 2

BEHAVIORAL EVALUATION		Eval Sub- total
TEST 1 – CAGE BEHAVIOR		
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>		+ 2

**ADOPTION CRITERIA POINTS:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING**

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Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab clothing/body; mount person</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Bite</i>	+ 12
TEST 2 – ROOM BEHAVIOR	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab clothing/body; mount person</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Bite</i>	+ 12
TESTS 4a, b, c – BODY HANDLING	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab clothing/body; mount person</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Bite</i>	+ 12
TESTS 5a, b, c and 7a, b, c – POSSESSIVENESS: FOOD, RAWHIDE, TOYS	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab clothing/body; mount person</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap, inhibited bite to Assess-a-hand</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Uninhibited Bite to Assess-a-hand</i>	+ 12
TEST 6 – RUN AND FREEZE	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab clothing/body; mount person</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Bite</i>	+ 12
TEST 8 – TODDLER DOLL	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab doll's clothing/body; mount doll</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Bite</i>	+ 12
TESTS 9a, b, c – STRANGE PERSON, THREATENING PERSON, MAN	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Arousal: <i>Hard mouth; unable to calm; jump up & grab clothing/body; mount person</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 6
Aggression: <i>Snap</i>	+ 8
Aggression: <i>Bite</i>	+ 12

**ADOPTION CRITERIA POINTS:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING**

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TESTS 10a, b, c – BEHAVIOR WITH DOGS	
Fear (doesn't recover within 1 minute): <i>Cower, run away, tremble</i>	+ 2
Aggression: <i>Show teeth, growl</i>	+ 1
Aggression: <i>Snap and move away</i>	+ 3
Aggression: <i>Snap and continue moving forward</i>	+ 5
Aggression: <i>Inhibited Bite</i>	+ 7
Aggression: <i>Uninhibited Bite</i>	+ 10
BEHAVIOR OBSERVED IN SHELTER	
Shelter Sub-total	
AGGRESSION:	
<i>Attack or uninhibited bite - severe injury or death to a person</i>	+ 20
<i>Show teeth, growl – Adults</i>	+ 6
<i>Snap – Adults</i>	+ 8
<i>Bite – Adults</i>	+ 12
<i>Show teeth, growl – Children</i>	+ 8
<i>Snap – Children</i>	+ 10
<i>Bite - Children</i>	+ 14
<i>Show teeth, growl – to person when in cage only; resolves immediately outside of cage</i>	+ 3
<i>Snap – to person when in cage only; resolves immediately outside of cage</i>	+ 4
<i>Show teeth, growl - Vet or groomer ONLY</i>	+ 3
<i>Snap - Vet or groomer ONLY</i>	+ 5
<i>Bite - Vet or groomer ONLY</i>	+ 7
<i>Show teeth, growl - 50% or more people</i>	+ 10
<i>Snap - 50% or more people</i>	+ 12
<i>Bite - 50% or more people</i>	+ 20
<i>Bite to a person while breaking up a dog fight, result of severe pain or threat to dog</i>	+ 5
<i>Show teeth, growl - Dogs</i>	+ 1
<i>Snap and move away - Dogs</i>	+ 3
<i>Snap and continue moving forward - Dogs</i>	+ 5
<i>Inhibited Bite - Dogs</i>	+ 7
<i>Uninhibited Bite - Dogs</i>	+ 10
<i>Attack resulting in severe injury or death to a dog</i>	+ 15
<i>Show teeth, growl - Possessive aggression to dogs</i>	+ 0
<i>Snap - Possessive aggression to dogs</i>	+ 2
<i>Inhibited Bite - Possessive aggression to dogs</i>	+ 4

**ADOPTION CRITERIA POINTS:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING**

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<i>Show teeth, growl - Another animal species</i>	+ 0
<i>Snap - Another animal species</i>	+ 0
<i>Bite - Another animal species</i>	+ 1
<i>Attack resulting in severe injury or death to another animal species</i>	+ 10
FEAR (doesn't recover within 1 minute):	
<i>Cower, run away, tremble – to 50% or more unfamiliar people</i>	+ 2
AROUSAL:	
Hard mouth person; Jump up & grab person's clothing and/or body	+ 6
Mount person	+ 6
Chasing cars, motorcycles, joggers, cyclists, skateboarders	+ 2

**ADOPTION CRITERIA POINTS:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING**

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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	Other Sub-total
Fears resolving after rehabilitation program	- 2
Arousal resolving after rehabilitation program	- 3
Highly adoptable (looks, breed, puppy, etc.)	- 2
Dog controllable with training, treatment or avoidance	- 3
Kennel aggression to people (showing teeth, growling) resolving within 72 hours	- 6
DOG'S WEIGHT:	
Under 15 lbs.	- 3
15 - 20 lbs.	- 2
20 - 30 lbs.	- 1
40-50 lbs.	+1
50-60 lbs.	+ 2
60+	+3
Intake + Evaluation + Shelter Behavior + Other = TOTAL SCORE:	
Point totals/Outcome:	
* 0 – 3: Place for regular adoption	
* 4 – 15: Consider for regular adoption, rehabilitation, special adoption, breed rescue	
* 16 and above: Animal Health and Welfare panel review	
* 4 points and over require manager review 0 – 3 points require manager review if any aggression is noted	

DEFINITIONS

Aggression:

- Growl: Low frequency vocalization
- Show teeth: Vertical retraction of lips to show teeth
- Snap: Teeth snap in the air and do not touch skin
- Bite: Contact by teeth to skin or clothing with intention to threaten or harm
- Inhibited or controlled bite: Bite which produces no wound or a superficial wound (scratch or abrasion) with minimal damage and no muscle bruising
- Uninhibited or hard bite: Full thickness skin wound (puncture or laceration) or muscle bruising causing persistent pain
- Attack: Violent bite(s) with severe skin and muscle destruction

Arousal:

- Mouthing: Teeth contact skin with no break often occurring with play signals

**ADOPTION CRITERIA POINTS:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING**

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- *Soft mouthing:* Contact of teeth causes no discomfort
- *Hard mouthing:* Contact of teeth with pressure causing discomfort or pain

For Manager/Behavior Department Use

Dog's Name: _____ **A#** _____

M N F S Breed: _____ **Age:** _____

___ ***Suitable for Regular Adoption** - No special approvals needed

___ ***Suitable for Adoption** - Manager must approve adoption

___ *** **Suitable for Special Adoption** - Behavior Dept. must approve adoption

Note: If any aggression is noted, input of Behavior Department is required and dog will be considered for special adoption only

___ *** **Suitable for Rehabilitation:**

Person(s) assigned to implement prescription: _____

Re-evaluate for Adoption Suitability on: _____

___ ***Suitable for Breed Rescue**

___ ***Not Suitable for Adoption or Rehabilitation**

Manager/Behavior Department Comments:

*Manager approval: _____ Date: _____

**Behavior Department approval: _____ Date: _____



Animal Rescue League of Boston

INCOMING DOG PROFILE

Revised 4/25/06

Please fill this out so we can find the best home for your dog!

Date: _____ Your relationship to dog: _____

Part 1: Household History

1) Dog's name: _____ How old is your dog? _____ years _____ months

How long have you have your dog? _____ years _____ months

2) Why are you giving up this dog? _____

3) Where did you acquire your dog? Animal Rescue League Other Animal Shelter Friend/Relative

Newspaper Found/Stray Pet Store Gift Own Litter Other _____

Breeder Name and location of Breeder _____

4) Please describe your household: Quiet Active Noisy

5) Please list the AGES of household members your dog lived with:

Men _____ Women _____ Children _____

How did your dog react to the men in the household?

Friendly Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction No men in household

How did your dog react to the women in the household?

Friendly Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction No women in household

How did your dog react to the children in the household?

Friendly Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction No children in household

6) What other animals did your dog live with? No other animals in household

Dogs (Male / Female / Both) Cats (Male / Female / Both) Other (specify) _____

7) How did your dog get along with the dogs in your household?

Friendly Playful Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

8) How did your dog get along with dogs outside of your household?

Friendly Playful Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

9) How did your dog get along with the cats in your household? Chases

Friendly Playful Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

10) How did your dog get along with cats outside of your household? Chases

Friendly Playful Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Part 2: Dog's Housetraining History

1) Do you take your dog out to go to the bathroom? No Yes Paper trained

If yes, how many times a day does the dog go out? _____

2) Does your dog have accidents in the house? No Yes

If yes, how often? Daily A few times a week A few times a month

If yes, does your dog: Urinate Defecate Both

3) How many hours can your dog "hold it"? Not at all 1-3 Hours 4-8 Hours 8-12 Hours 12+ Hours

Part 3: Dogs Behavior History

1) How many hours of the day is your dog: Indoors:_____ (hours/day) Outdoors:_____ (hours/day)

When outdoors, is your dog: Allowed to roam Fenced in yard Kenneled Tied Leash walked

Kept in an Invisible Fence On a runner Off-leash at dog park Other _____

2) How long is your dog left alone, without people? Never 1-3 Hrs 4-8 Hrs 9-12 Hrs Over 12 Hrs

When alone, is your dog: Outdoors Free in the house Confined to a room Crated

Other (please describe)_____

3) When left alone does your dog? Destroy household items Urinate Defecate Bark Cry None

4) When you are home, does your dog? Destroy household items Urinate Defecate Bark Cry None

5) How does your dog play? Gentle Somewhat rough Very rough Doesn't play

When your dog plays, does he/she: Jumps Growls Barks Bites lightly Bites hard None

What toys does your dog like? Balls Frisbee Plush Squeaky Other:_____ None

What games does your dog like? Fetch Tug Chase Wrestling Other:_____ None

6) Please describe your dog's behavior when approached by unfamiliar children: Never encountered

Friendly Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

7) Please describe your dog's behavior when approached by unfamiliar men: Never encountered

Friendly Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

8) Please describe your dog's behavior when approached by unfamiliar women: Never encountered

Friendly Afraid Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

9) Does your dog chase (check all that apply): None

Joggers Cyclists Skateboarders Roller Bladers Cars Motorcycles Squirrels Other_____

10) Is your dog frightened of anything? No

Thunder Loud noises Fireworks Vehicles New places Other:_____

11) Please tell us about your dog's "bad habits:" _____

12) Is your dog allowed on furniture: No Yes Some _____

13) Where does your dog sleep overnight? _____

14) Has your dog had any obedience training? No Yes, did training myself Yes, with a trainer

What commands does your dog know? None Sit Down Stay Come Heel Give Paw Other:_____

What collar does your dog wear for leash walking? Regular flat collar Body harness Choke collar

Pinch/Prong collar Halti/Gentle Leader Other:_____

15) How does your dog react when you do the following:

Bathing: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Nail Trimming: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Brushing: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Ear Cleaning: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Teeth Brushing: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Wiping Feet: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Petting: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

Hugging: Never done Enjoys Afraid Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites No reaction

16) Where does your dog NOT like to be touched: Ears Paws Mouth Tail Other _____

If touched in the above place(s), how does your dog respond? Moves away Shows teeth Growls Snaps

Bites No reaction Other _____

17) How does your dog behave in the car? Enjoys Afraid Resists entering Sleeps Barks Vomits

Urinates/Defecates Never tried

18) Has your dog ever bitten a person? No Yes *If yes, did the bite puncture the skin?* No Yes

If yes, were stitches required? No Yes *Please explain the circumstances:* _____

19) Has your dog ever bitten another dog? No Yes *If yes, did the other dog require veterinary care?* No Yes

Please explain the circumstances: _____

Part 4: Dog's Possessive History

How does your dog react when you or another family member:

1) pet him/her or touch the bowl or food while eating:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

2) pet him/her or touch a bone, rawhide, pig's ear or other delicious edible while chewing:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

3) pet him/her or touch a stolen food item:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

4) pet him/her or touch a stolen object (tissue, shoe, sock, etc.):

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

5) pet him/her or touch a toy in his/her mouth:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

6) pet him/her or move him/her while sleeping:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

7) push or pull him/her off of furniture:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

8) approach him/her while next to another family member:

No reaction Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never tried

Part 5: Dog's Protective History

1) How does your dog react when an unfamiliar person approaches:

Yard: No reaction Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites

House: No reaction Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites

Family member: No reaction Barks Lunges Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites

Part 6: Dog's Medical History and Behavior to the Veterinarian

1) Did your dog see a veterinarian on a regular basis? No Yes

If yes, what is your vet hospital's name? _____

2) How does your dog react when your veterinarian does the following:

Examine (including heart and ears): No reaction Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never done

Restrain: No reaction Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never done

Administer shots: No reaction Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never done

Trim nails: No reaction Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never done

Take blood: No reaction Shows teeth Growls Snaps Bites Never done

Does your dog have to be muzzled at the vet? No Yes

3) Does your dog have any past or present medical conditions? No Yes

If yes, what are they? _____

4) Is your dog currently on any medications or special diets? _____

5) Is your dog spayed or neutered? No Yes If yes, at what age? _____

6) What type of food does your dog eat? Dry Wet/Canned Mixed What brand? _____

Does your dog get table scraps? No Yes *Does your dog get treats?* No Yes

Part 7: Additional Information

This dog would do well in a home with the following:

Children: Any age, including infants and toddlers Ages 5 and over Ages 9 and over Ages 14 and over

No children at all

Manual for Behavioral Evaluation

Person 1=Handler

Person 2=Recorder

TEST 1: CAGE BEHAVIOR (P1)

Walk up to cage. While standing, stare at dog and rattle the cage bars while still staring. Crouch and continue to stare at dog. Do not speak.

Walk dog outside to allow to urinate and defecate. Note how difficult dog is to walk. How hard does he pull? Record on Test 3a

TEST 2: ROOM BEHAVIOR (P1 and P2)

Drop leash. Sit down and ignore dog for 2 minutes. Call dog to come in a friendly lilting voice.

For safety reasons dog should wear a leash throughout the evaluation.

TEST 3: OBEDIENCE

3a: LEASH MANNERS (P1)

When walked, does dog pull lightly, medium or hard. If dog is difficult to walk? Would a Gentle Leader be helpful for volunteers?

3b: COMMANDS (No treat) (P1)

Sit: Using hand signal of palm to ceiling command the dog to sit. If the dog doesn't sit, point to the rump of the dog and repeat sit command.

Sit-stay: Place dog in sit. Using hand signal of palm to dog (as a policeman's stop) ask the dog to stay. While facing the dog take 2 steps from the dog.

Down: Place dog in sit. Using hand signal of finger touching the ground in front of the dog, command dog to down. If dog doesn't, use command lie down. If dog doesn't, raise hand with open palm toward the dog and repeat.

Come: If the dog will stay, move a distance of 10 feet from dog and command dog to come. If the dog will not stay, ask assistant to hold dog on leash. Move 10 feet from dog and command dog to come.

Give paw: Place dog in sit. Using a hand signal of an open hand in front of the dog's chest ask the dog to shake. If doesn't, ask dog for paw. If doesn't, ask dog to give a high 5.

3c: COMMANDS (With treat)

Repeat any commands from 3b that the dog did NOT do. Use a treat that the dog will readily eat and pays attention to.

TEST 4: HANDLING (P1)

4a: Feet: While dog is standing next to you, with head to the right, firmly hold the martingale collar by right hand. Using left hand pick up dog's right hind

FOOT (closest foot). Using left hand lean over dog pick up dog's left hind FOOT. Using left hand pick up dog's right front foot. Using left hand, lean over dog and pick up left front foot. If it is more comfortable to reverse hands do so, but be consistent from foot to foot. Watch dog's face for baring teeth, feel dog's collar for growling. If dog bares teeth, growls or snaps STOP! Do not pick up any more feet.

4b: Push into sit: WITHOUT SAYING SIT, push dog's rump down firmly. It is not necessary that the dog sits.

4c: Muzzle hold: With one or two hands (depending on the size of the dog's muzzle) gently hold mouth closed, count 3 and release. If dog does not bare teeth, growl, snap or bite, repeat.

TEST 5: RESPONSE TO TOYS (P1)

5a: Ball: Throw ball across room. If dog picks up ball in mouth ask to "drop". If doesn't, ask to "give". If doesn't, ask to "out". If doesn't pull on ball to see if dog will release. If doesn't throw a delicious food treat on the ground a few feet from dog to see if he will drop for the food.

5b: Plush squeaky: Repeat as for ball, using plush squeaky toy. Squeak the toy before you throw it.

5c: Tug Rope: Repeat as for ball, but play tug-o-war with dog before commanding to drop.

TEST 6: RUN AND FREEZE (P1)

With dog dragging leash, run across room (20-40 feet) giggling and waving arms. Suddenly stop and fold arms ignoring dog. Repeat.

TEST 7: POSSESSIVE BEHAVIOR (P1)

FOR ALL TESTS IN THIS CATEGORY DOG SHOULD BE TETHERED. MEDIUM AND LARGE DOGS (Over 25 pounds SHOULD BE TETHERED TO THE WALL OR A DOOR. TOY AND SMALL DOGS (Under 25 pounds) CAN BE HELD ON A LEASH BY AN ASSISTANT P2. THE TETHER SHOULD BE 6 FEET IN LENGTH. Before starting, introduce dog to the rubber hand to determine degree of fearfulness. If dog will not eat food or chew on rawhide, note on evaluation form. Do not rate dogs that ignore the food. If dog displays aggression allow dog to finish food in bowl and take bowl with rubber hand.

7a: Dry food: Fill bowl with dry food. Place bowl just outside limit of tether. Using rubber hand, push bowl just inside limit of tether. Using rubber hand, pet dog on body. Pet dog on head. Place rubber hand a few inches from bowl and move around bowl in a circle. Place hand on edge of bowl for 10 seconds. Place hand in bowl and move around for 10 seconds. Pull bowl away from dog. Return bowl to dog. Pull bowl away again.

7b: Canned food: Repeat as for dry.

7c: Flavored rawhide: Give dog rawhide and allow to chew. Pet body, pet head, place rubber hand near rawhide, touch rawhide with rubber hand. If dog bares teeth, growls, snaps or bites, toss a delicious treat away from dog. When dog leaves the rawhide to eat treat, use rubber hand to remove rawhide.

TEST 8: FRIENDLY APPROACH BY TODDLER DOLL (P2)

While P1 holds the dog's leash, P2 walks toward the dog, walking the toddler doll in front. When 2 feet from the dog P2 stops walking and extends the doll's arm. If dog exhibits a fearful or aggressive response, sit the doll on the floor and observe the dog's response.

TEST 9: BEHAVIOR AROUND STRANGERS

9a: Approach by friendly "strange" person (P2)

While P1 holds the dog's leash P2 goes outside the room and dresses in a trench coat, hat and cane. P2 enters room and walks in an unsteady gait toward the dog. P2 speaks gently to the dog and reaches out to pet dog.

9b: Approach by threatening person (P2)

While P1 holds the dog's leash, P2 goes outside the room. P2 knocks and enters the room speaking loudly and aggressively. "What do we have here? I knew there would be trouble!" When within 3 feet of the dog P2 raises an arm as if to strike the dog and then to strike P1.

9c: Behavior around men

If there is no record of the dog's behavior around men, this test must be done. While P1 holds the dog's leash a man approaches the dog abruptly. When 2 feet from the dog, he speaks to the dog and reaches as if to pet.

TEST 10: BEHAVIOR AROUND DOGS (P1)

10a: Opposite sex

Choose a dog friendly dog of the opposite sex and approximately the same size. While P1 holds the test dog's leash and P2 holds the visiting dog's leash, the two dogs are walked past each other, 2 feet apart. If dog barks, bares teeth, or snaps DO NOT CONTINUE! If dog does none of these, walk dogs toward each other and allow dogs to greet. Keeping a somewhat loose leash allow dogs to continue greeting. Move with dog as circling occurs, not allowing the leashes to get tangled.

10b: Same sex

Repeat with dog friendly dog of same sex. Choose a neutered animal if possible.

10c: Other

If a fear or aggression is observed and team feels that another dog might be better tolerated, repeat with another dog.