

## GOVERNING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION

### NARCOTIC DETECTION CANINES

The purpose of this test is to evaluate the ability of a canine to detect and find narcotics concealed in various locations. All certifications are good through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. (ie: if you certify on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, your certification will not expire until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013) Marijuana will not be used at the National Detector Dog Certification. The 4<sup>th</sup> odor will follow the guidelines below for non-marijuana trained dogs. The National Office requires that all k9's attending the National Detector Dog Certification must have certified regionally using marijuana if they are utilized to detect marijuana. (September 20, 2020)

Regions must offer the following testing to their members: K9's that are used to detect marijuana will be offered an alternate test on the regional level using the below testing option. (September 20, 2020)

#### 1. TESTING:

A. The test will consist of two parts: vehicles and interior rooms of a building. **Certifications where marijuana is used as a substance will use four (4) separate narcotics for testing.**

The following substances may be used:

- **Marijuana**
- **Hashish**
- **Cocaine**
- **Heroin**
- **Methamphetamine**
- **MDMA or Mushrooms\***
- **Any certified derivative of the above**

\*The use of MDMA or Mushrooms should be determined by the Chief Judge subject to availability.

**Certification where marijuana is NOT used as a substance will use at least three (3) different narcotics for testing. **\*see F in Vehicle search section.****

The following substances may be used:

- **Cocaine**
- **Heroin**
- **Methamphetamine**
- **MDMA or Mushrooms\***
- **Any certified derivative of the above**

\*The use of MDMA or Mushrooms should be determined by the Chief Judge subject to availability.

B. **Amounts**: A minimum of five (5) grams for each hide will be used for testing.

C. Care will be taken not to cross contaminate when handling the narcotics hides by the judges. Surface contamination (scratches, etc.) will be cleaned at the judges' discretion.

D. All testing aids will be placed so the dog cannot retrieve or come in physical contact with the narcotic.

E. The soak time for the target substances will be 30 minutes before the first search.

## **2. SCORING:**

Maximum total point score of 200 is possible. Certification (passing) is 140 points. See score sheets for areas of evaluation.

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## VEHICLE SEARCH PHASE

A. Five vehicles will be used. The vehicles may be of any type or model and may include autos, trucks, buses, airplanes, boats, etc.

- B. The substance can be placed on the outside of the vehicle or placed inside where scent is available to the canine from the outside.
- C. The order of the vehicles will be approved by the Chief Judge and will permit teams easy access for searching.
- D. No two hides will be placed on the same vehicle.
- E. If only the outside of the vehicles are searched, there will be a 10 minute time limit total with a 2 minute warning at the 8 minute mark. If the interior of a vehicle is searched, there will be an additional one minute per vehicle added to the total time. If all 5 vehicle interiors are searched, a maximum time limit of 15 minutes will be allowed with a 2 minute warning.
- F. If you use vehicles for testing marijuana (rooms are recommended as it is easier to have an extra room), you have the following options:
  - a. Use two sets of five cars – one set would have a marijuana hide and the other set would not. Participants would be directed to the appropriate set of vehicles.
  - b. Move the “hide vehicle” in and out of the lineup. For Marijuana dogs, you pull the vehicle into place and then remove it for non-marijuana dogs. This is a good option if you separate the competitors that are doing marijuana from the non-marijuana competitors. \*Passed 9-21-21 in Wilmington, NC

## INDOOR / INTERIOR SEARCH PHASE

- A. The indoor search will consist of three rooms. Each room will be a minimum of 200 square feet. There will be a time limit of one and one half (1.5) minutes for every 100 square feet. Large rooms can (optional) be sectioned off with a makeshift or temporary barrier to reduce it to the 200 square foot minimum. The unused part of this room cannot be used as one of the three required searchable rooms. (i.e. A large classroom can be divided off to create a 200 ft search area, but the rest of the room cannot be used for the trial)
- B. The rooms must be furnished and can be kitchens, workshops, offices, schoolrooms or other rooms containing furnishings and/or equipment.
- C. There will be two hides within the three rooms, but only one hide can be placed in a room. \* Note below for NON marijuana trained dogs.

D. There will be a two (2) minute warning given before the expiration of time. At the expiration of time, the handler will call his/her finds. The handler can elect to end search before time expires and call the location of the hidden narcotics.

E. The handler can use the allotted time to search any of the rooms at their discretion.

\*If there are non-marijuana trained dogs, a steward will direct them to an additional room where the additional odor will be hidden, avoiding the marijuana room.

**Chief Judges are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the paperwork.**

**Upload the Scoring program at [www.uspcak9.com](http://www.uspcak9.com) under the certification tab.**

Or E-mail completed trial paperwork to include: (within 30 days of the trial)

- Original Master score sheet
- Judges and Scorekeepers list with events judged
- The high-low sheets showing the scores of all judges.

**Any issues, Contact Secretary Ruopp at [secretary@uspcak9.com](mailto:secretary@uspcak9.com)**