



Scentwork UK

Judges Roles & Responsibilities

To:

1. Be on time and fit to carry out duties
2. Bring scented articles
3. Be welcoming, fair & consistent
4. Provide relevant Briefing pre-test then post-test at presentation
5. Support Scribe and Trial Manager (Double check & confirm details of search including position of hides)
6. Check identity of Teams under test
7. Where possible, provide and/or observe running of White Dog to help establish areas of difficulty and potential contamination of search areas
8. Know how to proceed without WD?*
9. Be knowledgeable of guidelines, permitted deductions and be competent to record results
10. Set test, appropriate to level of trial within Tier
11. Set test avoiding contamination (gloves/tweezers) Test with blank if necessary
12. Be aware of potential movement of scent over time & thru exposure to or lack of airflow
13. Ensure scribe is recording Finds, Time, Deductions & WA's
14. Ensure competitor has agreed Finds, Time, Deductions & WA's
15. Provide brief objective feedback & refer Teams to their own trainers. Positive/Negative/Positive!
16. Guide and inform the Scribe or TM in placing of distraction scents at L4
17. Remove scented articles on completion of a search/trial
18. Check any spectators have been agreed by the teams they will be watching
19. Remember that the majority of SWUK competing teams are pet dogs and pet dog owners (Individual goals will differ: Injury/Social/Reactive/Nervous/Elderly/Driven/Mental stimulation/Hobby for handler & dog)
20. Judge without being judgmental. (Judges comments remembered+/-/Affect experience of individuals/Opportunity to build confidence, encourage & inspire/Draw positive feelings from unsuccessful search experiences)



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21. Understand dogs/handlers/teams work differently
22. Be empathetic to teams struggling due to environment/experience/nerves
23. Post trial report on website

“The ethos of a SWUK approved Judge is to facilitate a trial by implementing rules in an objective, consistent, fair manner in order to find a team that has performed best within the guidelines and thus is considered to be the winner.

No bias to breed, handler/dog team, style of searching or indicating will be exhibited and a basic understanding of how we think scent behaves, changes and develops in different environmental conditions should always be considered by the judge before deductions or subjective observations are made.”