



## THE GUNDOG CLUB

### GRADE TWO SPANIEL (aka 'Hunting Retriever')

#### **Obedience**

- The handler must walk the dog off lead from the line to the 20yard sit marker. (10 points)
- The handler will sit the dog at the 20yard marker with one cue, remove the lead, and return to the line without the dog. One 'stay' reminder is allowed before returning to the line, or from the line if preferred. No further cues can be given. The dog must remain sitting for 1 min. (10 points)
- The handler will recall the dog from the line by whistle, to heel position, and replace the lead. (10 points)
- The handler will walk to the 20-yard sit marker with the dog at heel. As the pair pass the 10-yard stop marker, the handler must blow the stop whistle and carry on walking without pause. The dog must drop promptly into the sitting position when the whistle is blown and remain there as the handler walks on to, and around, the 20-yard marker and returns to the dog. The handler then heels the dog back to the line. (10 points)

TOTAL POINTS FOR OBEDIENCE - 40

#### **Retrieving**

- Retrieve 1: Memory retrieve, carried out at the end of the Obedience section. The handler carries a dummy and walks the dog at heel (off lead) from the starting post to the 20-yard marker. The handler drops the dummy at the 20-yard marker and returns to the starting post. Without undue delay, the assessor will instruct the handler when to send the dog for the retrieve. (10 points)
- Retrieve 2: Split retrieve, either right or left - as determined by the assessor. A dummy is thrown either side of the dog, who is facing the handler. The dog must remain steady whilst the dummies are thrown and must fetch the dummy requested by the assessor on a hand signal from the handler. The handler is situated three to five yards from the dog. The dog is positioned with his back to a fence, hedge or similar barrier. (10 points)
- Retrieve 3: Marked retrieve in clear view at 30 yards. (10 points)
- Retrieve 4: Marked retrieve into light cover at 25 yards. (10 points)

TOTAL POINTS FOR RETRIEVES - 40

## **Hunting**

- The dog will be required to demonstrate a willingness to move away from the handler and to show an interest in hunting some light cover. The dog will not be required to quarter, or hunt to a pattern.
- The handler will be asked to recall the dog when the assessor is satisfied that the dog has shown an aptitude for hunting.

TOTAL POINTS FOR HUNTING, INC FINAL RECALL - 20

## **Scoring**

Pass: 70% (70 points)

Merit: 80% (80 points)

Distinction: 90% (90 points)

Minimum of 50% required in each section.

Borderline dogs who fail may be permitted a second attempt at the assessor's discretion.

## **NOTES:**

### **Heelwork:**

- The dog must be off lead for the duration of the test. No collars/harnesses are permitted. The use of a lead during the test is not permitted.
- The dog should be in a reasonable heel position at all times, close to and alongside the handler.
- Excessive use of cues to maintain this position will be penalised.

### **Sit & stay:**

- The dog should react promptly to a single sit cue.
- A 'sit' or 'stay' cue as the handler leaves the dog is acceptable.
- The handler may face, but should not communicate with the dog for the duration of the stay.

### **Stop:**

- The moving dog at heel must come quickly to a halt and sit when the stop whistle is blown and whilst the handler continues walking.

### **Recall:**

- The dog will return quickly and without hesitation to the handler when called.
- The recall must be by whistle and not voice.

### **Retrieves:**

- The dog must remain steady at the handler's side whilst each dummy is thrown.
- The handler must not move around during the retrieve.
- Delivery to hand is essential.
- Speed and style are desirable.
- Excessive noise or cues by the handler are undesirable and will lose marks.
- One mark will be concealed in light cover.

**Hunting:**

- The dog should demonstrate a willingness to run and explore away from the handler.  
Quartering patterns are not required at this stage.

**Other:**

- Whining by the dog or noisy handling - up to 5 points deducted.
- Barking - up to 10 points deducted.
- Aggressive behaviour - is an eliminating fault.