



TRADITIONAL CYBER SCENT WORK

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Version 2.1

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PURPOSE

Originally launched as an online organization, the goal of Cyber Scent Work was to bring Scent Work trialing opportunities to as many dog and handler teams as possible and deliver valuable training feedback from experienced instructors.

There is a supportive community built around Scent Work, including group classes, friends gathering to practice with one another and more. Cyber Scent Work thus expanded the program to include in-person assessments. Participants may now choose to work on their Cyber Scent Work searches with an approved Evaluator in their area.

Designed to mimic traditional Scent Work trialing scenarios, participants will tackle six progressively challenging levels meant to test their searching skills. The four most common search elements are offered (Interiors, Exteriors, Vehicles and Containers). Participants will not only earn titles and ribbons with Cyber Scent Work but also build the skills necessary to succeed in other formal Scent Work competitions.

WHO IS THIS FOR

Anyone interested in Scent Work:

- Dog and handler teams who are preparing to compete.
- Dog and handler teams who cannot or do not want to formally compete.
- Dog and handler teams working with a training school or instructor.
- Shelters looking to provide enrichment for their dogs and to promote them.
- Dog and handler teams who are interested in having fun!

HOW THIS WORKS

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

We offer three participation options including both in-person and virtual formats:

IN-PERSON ASSESSMENT

The in-person option, handlers will work with an approved Cyber Scent Work Evaluator to assess the dog as they tackle a given search.

Evaluators may offer these assessments as part of a group training class or as a separate special event. Evaluators will assess the dog as they tackle the search and provide the handler with a scorecard for each search.

Evaluators will choose which search(es) they will offer, the specifications of those searches (*which level, element and track*) and will design the search(es) based upon the rules and regulations.

To earn credit toward titles, handlers may then submit their scorecard online to Cyber Scent Work with the required online form and recording fee.

ONLINE ASSESSMENT

One of the virtual options, participants will design and film their own searches in accordance with the Traditional Cyber Scent Work Rules. They will then submit their video to Cyber Scent Work, with the required online form and entry fee, for our Online Review Officials to review and score.

ONLINE ASSESSMENT WITH TRAINING FEEDBACK

Virtual participants may also opt to receive training feedback from a Cyber Scent Work Online Review Official. In addition to their scorecard, participants will receive a detailed video review consisting of training advice and recommended training resources.

TITLES AND RIBBONS

Participants may earn an Element title with three qualifying searches in that Element (for a given Level and Track). Participants will receive a .PDF title certificate via email and an Element title ribbon will be mailed to their address.

Participants may earn a Level title by earning titles in all four Elements at that Level (for a given Track). Participants will receive a .PDF title certificate via email and a Level title ribbon will be mailed to their address.

TRACKING PROGRESS

All participants **must** [create a free account](#) through the Cyber Scent Work, Inc. website.

Upon registering their dog, and paying the one-time lifetime fee, participants may track their progress, see their past scorecards, video reviews, and title certificates through their Cyber Scent Work dashboard.

ELIGIBILITY AND EQUIPMENT

DOGS ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE

All dogs (*any breed or gender*) who are:

- Over 6-months in age
- Free from active injuries (e.g., visible stitches, wearing cones, etc.)

SHELTER AND FOSTER DOGS

Approved shelters and rescues may register and participate with their resident dogs, foster dogs and dogs available for adoption. [Link for shelter and rescue application.](#)

DOGS INELIGIBLE TO COMPETE

- Dogs under 6-months in age
- Lactating bitches
- Dogs with visible injuries

NOTE: Entries will **NOT** be accepted, scored or reviewed for ineligible dogs.

PROHIBITED EQUIPMENT

- Prong collars
- Choke collars
- Head collars
- E-collars (electronic, shock or bark collars)
- No-pull or front-clip harnesses
 - If a harness must be worn for medical reasons, the leash or long line must be attached to the back ring.

NOTE: Entries will **NOT** be accepted, scored or reviewed for dogs wearing prohibited equipment.

ROLES

EVALUATORS

Approved Cyber Scent Work Evaluators design and score in-person searches.

Evaluators complete an approval process through Cyber Scent Work including completing a course and passing a test outlining the search requirements for each Level, Element and Track.

Evaluators possess experience as trial officials with formal Scent Work competition organizations and/or have extensive experience as professional detection dog trainers and/or are professional Scent Work instructors.

If interested in applying to become an Evaluator, you may review the requirements [on our website](#).

ONLINE REVIEW OFFICIALS

Approved Cyber Scent Work Online Review Officials score and provide training feedback for all virtual entries (online assessments and online assessments with training feedback).

Online Review Officials possess experience as trial officials with formal Scent Work competition organizations and/or have extensive experience as professional detection dog trainers and/or are professional Scent Work instructors. Biographies of all Online Review Officials are available [on our website](#).

ASSISTANTS

Virtual participants **must** choose Assistants to design the search area, set the hides, video and officiate the search for online assessments.

Assistants are **NOT** required to be formally certified or approved through Cyber Scent Work or any other organization. Participants have chosen their instructors, classmates, fellow Scent Work aficionados, friends and family members to act as their Assistants with success.

REQUIREMENTS FOR IN-PERSON ASSESSMENTS

Evaluators are responsible for designing searches in compliance with the Rules and Regulations. After completing a search, Evaluators will provide participants with a scorecard noting whether they qualified or not.

Participants are responsible for uploading their qualifying scorecards to the Cyber Scent Work website and paying the required recording fee. This is a required step for the entry to be recognized by Cyber Scent Work and credited toward earning titles and ribbons.

NOTE: Evaluators do **NOT** submit scorecards or pay the recording fee on the participants' behalf.

UPLOADING YOUR SCORECARD

For Cyber Scent Work to recognize results of the entry, participants must upload a copy of their qualifying scorecard to Cyber Scent Work.

To do so, participants should take a photo of this scorecard, login to their Cyber Scent Work account, complete the "Submit a Traditional Entry" online form, pay the recording fee and upload this scorecard photo.

The submission will be validated and credited to your account within 7 business days.

NOTE: Participants should **NOT** upload any non-qualifying scorecards.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE ASSESSMENTS

For participants choosing either an online assessment or an online assessment with training feedback, they must video their searches and submit them through the Cyber Scent Work website.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN THE VIDEO

Videos **must** consist of two parts:

- An overview of the search area recorded before the team runs, indicating where the hides, any distractors, the start line and boundaries are located.

- The actual search (from the team approaching the start line to the handler calling “FINISH”).

Virtual participants **must** submit one consolidated video including both the search area overview and the actual search in a single video file. Videos should **NOT** otherwise be edited to include annotations, music or voice-overs.

UPLOADING VIDEO

Videos should be uploaded to YouTube and a link copied and pasted to the virtual entry form.

Virtual participants are urged to double-check that the video is correct and easy to view, with the search area and team clearly visible throughout the search. If videos are not visible, the participant will be contacted to provide a new video and the entry will not be finalized until the new video is received.

ASSISTANT RESPONSIBILITIES

An Assistant is **required** for all virtual entries. The Assistant has several responsibilities:

CHOOSING SEARCH AREA

Assistants should partner with the participant to find suitable search areas that meet the requirements laid out in these rules but will also be safe for the dog. Safety is of paramount importance for all involved.

SETTING HIDES

Assistants **MUST** set all the hides. While Assistants do **NOT** need to be formally certified or approved by Cyber Scent Work, we’ve compiled helpful resources to ensure they are following proper hide preparation, handling and setting procedures. See the “Resources” section of the Traditional Cyber Scent Work page [on our website](#).

VIDEOING THE SEARCH AREA

Prior to the search, Assistants **MUST** video the search area, start line, boundaries and location of the hides.

VIDEOING THE SEARCH

Assistants are also responsible for videoing the search itself. Using a tripod is often the best option. Place the camera in a location where the Online Review Official may have the best view of the entire search area and team as they are working.

WALKTHROUGH PRIOR TO THE SEARCH

The Assistant **MUST** provide a walkthrough with the participant where they will point out the search area boundaries and start line.

OFFICIATING THE SEARCH

Assistants are responsible for officiating the search. This includes:

- responding to the participant's "Alert" call with "Yes" or "No".
- responding to the participant's "Finish" call with "Yes" or "No".

These calls **MUST** be made promptly and loudly enough for the participant to hear.

If a team exceeds the maximum false alerts for a given search, the Assistant **MUST** direct the participant to where the hide is located so they may reward the dog.

TIMING THE SEARCH

Assistants **MUST** time the search. Time will start the moment the dog's nose crosses the start line and end when the participant calls "FINISH".

Assistants **MUST** give participants a 30-second warning before time expires.

LEVELS OF COMPETITION

There are six levels of difficulty:

- Beginner
- Novice
- Intermediate
- Advanced
- Master
- Expert

WHERE TO START

Teams may begin competing at any level and are **NOT** required to start at the Beginner level.

PROGRESSION

Levels are progressive in nature and become more complex and demanding. Thus, teams who follow a traditional progression will enjoy many benefits of building crucial skills for both the dog and handler.

Teams may remain at their preferred level for as long as they wish. Progressing up the levels is **NOT** required.

Teams may return to a level in which they have already earned titles (*e.g., a dog and handler team participating in Master may go back down to the Novice level*). Furthermore, teams are welcome to skip around between levels at any time.

SEARCH ELEMENTS

There are four search elements:

- Interior
- Exterior
- Vehicle
- Container

CHOOSING AN ELEMENT

Teams may choose to participate in as many and whichever search elements they prefer.

To earn an Element title, a team will need to earn **3 qualifying scores (Qs)** in the same Element, Level and Hide Track.

SEARCH ELEMENTS GUIDELINES

INTERIOR

An inside search area that should have a **minimum** of 3 walls and a roof. Space **must** be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, exposed wires, etc.*).

Some examples include a bedroom, living room, office, or lounge, portion of an interior training center, barn or warehouse, or a fully enclosed tent.

EXTERIOR

An outside search area that should have a **maximum** of 2 solid walls and may have a roof or overhang, such as a shelter in a park or overhang for a porch. Space **must** be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, poison traps, sudden drop-offs, etc.*).

Some examples include a backyard, front yard, exterior of a building or a public park.

VEHICLE

An inside or outside area that contains items used for transportation. Space **must** be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, exposed wires, etc.*).

Hides **MUST** be on the **OUTSIDE** of the vehicle and may **NOT** be placed inside the vehicle, including but not limited to, the glove compartment, in between the seats nor may hides be placed in the undercarriage of the vehicle. Up to two hides may be placed onto a single vehicle.

Some examples include cars, SUVs, trucks, buses, boats, tractors, motorcycles, bicycles, wheelbarrows, riding lawnmowers, golf carts, hand trucks, carts or planes.

CONTAINER

An inside or outside area with items used to hold other items such as boxes, toolboxes, lunch boxes, totes, buckets, bins, luggage, etc. Space **must** be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, exposed wires, etc.*).

Containers **must** be a **minimum of 24" apart (61 cm)** from one another and any rows **must** be a **minimum of 36" apart (91 cm)**. Hides **must** be placed within an odor vessel (*e.g., plastic tube or straw*) and placed close to a seam of said container to allow odor to escape.

Elevated containers are permitted with the height determined by level.

HIDE TRACK

Participants may choose what their dogs will search for. Hide tracks are listed below.

While participants can choose the hide track for each search, progress toward earning titles and ribbons is recorded separately for each hide track. Participants need three qualifying entries in the same level, element, **and** hide track to earn an element title.

Hide tracks will be delineated on any title certificates earned.

Modifications to the search requirements based on the hide track chosen may be found in the "Modifications" section.

PERMITTED HIDE TRACKS

ODOR HIDES

Target odor hides **MUST** be prepared using scented cotton swabs placed within odor vessels (metal tin, straw, tube, etc.).

PERMITTED TARGET ODORS

- Birch ("Sweet Birch" aka Betula Lenta)
- Anise ("Aniseed" aka Pimpinella Anisum)
- Clove ("Clove Bud" aka Eugenia Caryophyllata). *

*For our international handlers, they are welcome to use the target odors customarily used by competition organizations in their area.

ODOR PREPARATION AND CONCENTRATION

"24-hour cooking method" – fill a large canning jar with cotton swabs (with paper straws) cut in half and place 3-5 drops of target oil on the inner wall of the canning jar. Close and shake the jar and allow it to sit for 24 hours. 3-5 scented cotton swabs may be used per odor vessel/hide.

PAIRED ODOR HIDES

Target odor hides with food placed on top of the hide vessel for the dog to self-reward.

FOOD HIDES

Dog-safe foodstuff.

MODIFICATIONS

Some searches may not permit the dog to self-reward. Participants should be careful when choosing **Food** or **Paired Odor Hides** for these searches, as it may promote destructive behavior.

Participants may leave **Containers** open when using **Food** or **Paired Odor Hides**.

If participants choose **Food** or **Paired Odor Hides**, searches may **not** include food distractors.

DISTRACTOR

Searches may be required to offer planned distractors for the dog to work through. The total number and types of distractors to include is determined by level.

DISTRACTOR CATEGORIES

FOOD DISTRACTORS

Any foodstuff item that is safe to be consumed by dogs, meaning it may be human-specific or dog-specific treats or food. Food distractors **MUST** be securely contained within sealed **plastic containers** within the search area (*glass containers are **NOT** permitted for safety reasons*).

TOY DISTRACTORS

May include any variety of balls (*e.g., tennis balls, Chuck-It balls, etc.*), ropes, stuffed dog toys, etc. Toy distractors do **NOT** need to be contained within the search area and may be out in the open.

In Container searches, toy distractors **MAY** be placed inside containers or be out in the open; this is up to the discretion of the Evaluator or Assistant.

SOUND DISTRACTORS

Any item located **directly outside** the search area which emits a sound (*e.g., handheld radio, smartphone, animatronic item, children's toy, etc.*) as the dog is searching. Creative sound distractors are encouraged (*e.g., clapping, music, ringtones, etc.*).

Sounds known to stress, startle or frighten dogs are **NOT** permitted (*e.g., thunder, barking dogs, banging pots/pans*).

PERSON DISTRACTORS

An adult person (*18 years or older*) who is either sitting, standing, or walking back-and-forth **directly outside** the search area. The person distractor may be familiar to the dog but **MUST** be a different person from the Evaluator or Assistant.

Person distractors must **NOT** purposefully attract the dog's attention, nor may they stress, startle, or frighten the dog.

MOVEMENT DISTRACTORS

Any item that will move (*e.g., animatronic items, moving flags, tarps, sheets, etc.*) while the dog is searching. Movement distractors will be located **directly outside** the search area and will move consistently as the dog is searching.

Movement distractors are **NOT** meant to call the dog's attention, nor may they stress, startle, or frighten the dog.

LOCATION OF HIDES IN RELATION TO DISTRACTORS

Hides may **NOT** be placed directly on, underneath or inside a distractor.

For instance, a hide may **NOT** be placed on or underneath a toy distractor, inside a food distractor container, underneath an animatronic sound distractor, on a sound distractor or inside the pocket of a person distractor.

ACCEPTABLE DOG REACTION TO DISTRACTORS

Dogs are permitted to show some interest in a distractor for **upwards of 5 seconds**. Afterwards, they should go back to work. Otherwise, the Evaluator or Online Review Official may deduct points.

HOW SEARCHES ARE SCORED

POINTS REQUIRED TO QUALIFY

Points required to earn a qualifying score vary by Level as follows:

- Beginner – 70 points
- Novice – 75 points
- Intermediate – 80 points
- Advanced – 85 points
- Master – 90 points
- Expert – 95 points

REQUIRED TEST ITEMS

There are three required test items. Participants failing to complete any of these items will not qualify.

- Dog finds all the hides. (25 points)
- Handler rewards the dog for each hide found. (25 points)
- Handler calls "Alert" and "Finish". (10 points)

SEARCH TESTING CRITERIA

Searches are evaluated based upon the criteria below:

- Dog knows what they're searching for.
- Dog is focused on the search.
- Dog is working independently.
- Dog is interested in searching.
- Handler grants the dog space to work.
- Handler grants the dog time to work.
- Handler practices good off or on-leash handling techniques.
- Handler covers the search area.

For each item, participants may earn one of three grades:

- Excels (5 points)
- Pass (3 points)
- Needs Work (0 points)

FAULTS

The following are the possible faults participants may earn in each individual search. Faults may be earned multiple times. Each fault is a deduction of **5 points**.

- Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching.
- Dog is destructive.
 - Smashes containers, scratches vehicles, aggressive alerts, etc.
- Dog fails to properly cross the start line.
- Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

The following are the possible disqualifications participants may earn in each individual search. Entries with a disqualification in any individual search will not earn a passing score.

- Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area.
- Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person.
- Aggressive handling toward the dog.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct.

BONUS POINTS

Participants may earn bonus points for the items listed below. Each bonus item is worth **2 points** and can only be earned once.

- Dog offers passive change of behavior/alert behavior.
- Dog finds all the hides before 30-second warning.
- Handler jackpots the dog after each hide found.
- Handler throws the dog a party at the end of the search.

GENERAL SEARCH GUIDELINES

Below are some general guidelines which apply to all the searches.

REUSING SEARCH AREAS

A location may be reused from entry to entry if the placement of the start line, hides, distractors and any staging materials used (chairs, tables, objects, etc.) is changed or altered.

REWARDING THE DOG

Handlers **must** reward their dog when they correctly find a hide, regardless of the Hide Track they choose. Handlers may choose to use a treat reward, toy reward, verbal reward or a combination of all three. This may be done at or away from source, it is the handler's choice.

METHOD OF REWARDING

Tossing treats or toys to reward the dog will contaminate the search area and is highly frowned upon by Scent Work competition organizations. Handlers **must** deliver treats directly to the dog's mouth and use tug toys or balls on a rope that never leave their hand when using toy rewards.

SEARCHING ON- OR OFF-LEASH

If the search area is fully enclosed, safe and the dog is permitted to be off-leash, a search may be done off-leash. When searching in public places, all posted signs and leash laws **must** be followed.

Should handlers choose to run a search on-leash, using either a 6'-8' leash (2-2.5 m) or 10'-15' long line (3-5 m) is recommended.

CYBER SCENT WORK RULES

Below are detailed breakdowns for each of the Traditional searches.



BEGINNER

Level	Element	Number of Q's Required	Element Title*
Beginner	Interior	3	I-B
Beginner	Exterior	3	E-B
Beginner	Vehicle	3	V-B
Beginner	Container	3	C-B

Upon earning element titles Interior, Exterior, Vehicle and Container, participants will be awarded the **Cyber Sniffer Beginner Level title (CS-B)**.

**Teams who choose the Food Hide Track will have a "F" appended to the title.*

Teams who choose the Paired Odor Hide Track will have a "P" appended to the title.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Beginner Interior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:00
Points to Qualify	70

Hides	
Number of Hides	2 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	2 ft (61 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 100 sq. ft (9 m ²) and 200 sq. ft (19 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	None
Distractor Categories	N/A
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Beginner Exterior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:00
Points to Qualify	70

Hides	
Number of Hides	2 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	2 ft (61 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 100 sq. ft (9 m ²) and 300 sq. ft (28 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	None
Distractor Categories	N/A
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Beginner Vehicle

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:00
Points to Qualify	70

Hides	
Number of Hides	2 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	2 ft (61 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Vehicles	Between 2 and 3 vehicles.
Vehicle Orientation	Straight row, side-by-side or perpendicular.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	None
Distractor Categories	N/A
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Beginner Container

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:00
Points to Qualify	70

Hides	
Number of Hides	2 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	2 ft (61 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Containers	Between 10 and 12 containers.
Container Orientation	Straight row, two straight rows, three straight rows, two staggered rows or three staggered rows.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	None
Distractor Categories	N/A
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



NOVICE

Level	Element	Number of Q's Required	Element Title*
Novice	Interior	3	I-N
Novice	Exterior	3	E-N
Novice	Vehicle	3	V-N
Novice	Container	3	C-N

Upon earning element titles Interior, Exterior, Vehicle and Container, participants will be awarded the **Cyber Sniffer Novice Level title (CS-N)**.

**Teams who choose the Food Hide Track will have a "F" appended to the title.*

Teams who choose the Paired Odor Hide Track will have a "P" appended to the title.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Novice Interior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	75

Hides	
Number of Hides	3 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch and/or Anise
Blind vs. Known Hides	1 hide is blind, 2 hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 100 sq. ft (9 m ²) and 300 sq. ft (28 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	1 distractor
Distractor Categories	Toy or Food
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Novice Exterior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	75

Hides	
Number of Hides	3 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch and/or Anise
Blind vs. Known Hides	1 hide is blind, 2 hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 100 sq. ft (9 m ²) and 500 sq. ft (46 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	1 distractor
Distractor Categories	Toy or Food
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Novice Vehicle

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	75

Hides	
Number of Hides	3 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch and/or Anise
Blind vs. Known Hides	1 hide is blind, 2 hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Vehicles	Between 2 and 4 vehicles.
Vehicle Orientation	Straight row, side-by-side or perpendicular.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	1 distractor
Distractor Categories	Toy or Food
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Novice Container

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	75

Hides	
Number of Hides	3 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch and/or Anise
Blind vs. Known Hides	1 hide is blind, 2 hides are known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Containers	Between 12 and 15 containers.
Container Orientation	Straight row, two straight rows, three straight rows, two staggered rows or three staggered rows.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	1 distractor
Distractor Categories	Toy or Food
Penalties	
False Alerts	Up to 2 false alerts permitted; deduction of 5 points for each false alert.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



INTERMEDIATE

Level	Element	Number of Q's Required	Element Title*
Intermediate	Interior	3	I-I
Intermediate	Exterior	3	E-I
Intermediate	Vehicle	3	V-I
Intermediate	Container	3	C-I

Upon earning element titles Interior, Exterior, Vehicle and Container, participants will be awarded the **Cyber Sniffer Intermediate Level title (CS-I)**.

**Teams who choose the Food Hide Track will have a "F" appended to the title.*

Teams who choose the Paired Odor Hide Track will have a "P" appended to the title.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Intermediate Interior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	80

Hides	
Number of Hides	4 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	3 hides are blind, 1 hide is known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 100 sq. ft (9 m ²) and 500 sq. ft (46 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	2 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food or Sound
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Intermediate Exterior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	80

Hides	
Number of Hides	4 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	3 hides are blind, 1 hide is known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 100 sq. ft (9 m ²) and 800 sq. ft (74 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	2 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food or Sound
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Intermediate Vehicle

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	80

Hides	
Number of Hides	4 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	3 hides are blind, 1 hide is known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Vehicles	Between 2 and 5 vehicles.
Vehicle Orientation	Straight row, side-by-side, circle, square, triangle or perpendicular.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	2 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food or Sound
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Intermediate Container

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	2:30
Points to Qualify	80

Hides	
Number of Hides	4 hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	3 hides are blind, 1 hide is known.
Inaccessible Hides	None
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Containers	Between 15 and 20 containers.
Container Orientation	Straight row, two straight rows, three straight rows, two staggered rows, three staggered rows, clusters or a circle.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	2 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food or Sound
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



ADVANCED

Level	Element	Number of Q's Required	Element Title*
Advanced	Interior	3	I-A
Advanced	Exterior	3	E-A
Advanced	Vehicle	3	V-A
Advanced	Container	3	C-A

Upon earning element titles Interior, Exterior, Vehicle and Container, participants will be awarded the **Cyber Sniffer Advanced Level title (CS-A)**.

**Teams who choose the Food Hide Track will have a "F" appended to the title.*

Teams who choose the Paired Odor Hide Track will have a "P" appended to the title.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Advanced Interior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	3:00
Points to Qualify	85

Hides	
Number of Hides	5 total hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	May have 1 inaccessible hide.
Maximum Hide Height	4 ft (122 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 200 sq. ft (19 m ²) and 800 sq. ft (74 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	3 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound or Person
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Advanced Exterior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	3:00
Points to Qualify	85

Hides	
Number of Hides	5 total hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	May have 1 inaccessible hide.
Maximum Hide Height	4 ft (122 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 200 sq. ft (19 m ²) and 1,000 sq. ft (93 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	3 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound or Person
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Advanced Vehicle

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	3:00
Points to Qualify	85

Hides	
Number of Hides	5 total hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	No inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Vehicles	Between 3 and 5 vehicles.
Vehicle Orientation	Straight row, side-by-side, circle, square, triangle or perpendicular.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	3 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound or Person
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Advanced Container

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	3:00
Points to Qualify	85

Hides	
Number of Hides	5 total hides
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	No inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	4 ft (122 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Containers	Between 15 and 20 containers.
Container Orientation	Straight row, two straight rows, three straight rows, two staggered rows, three staggered rows, clusters, a circle or square.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	3 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound or Person
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



MASTER

Level	Element	Number of Q's Required	Element Title*
Master	Interior	3	I-M
Master	Exterior	3	E-M
Master	Vehicle	3	V-M
Master	Container	3	C-M

Upon earning element titles Interior, Exterior, Vehicle and Container, participants will be awarded the **Cyber Sniffer Master Level title (CS-M)**.

**Teams who choose the Food Hide Track will have a "F" appended to the title.*

Teams who choose the Paired Odor Hide Track will have a "P" appended to the title.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Master Interior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	4:30
Points to Qualify	90

Hides	
Number of Hides	4-7 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	May have 2 inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	5 ft (152 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 200 sq. ft (19 m ²) and 1,000 sq. ft (93 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Master Exterior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	4:30
Points to Qualify	90

Hides	
Number of Hides	4-7 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	May have 2 inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	5 ft (152 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 200 sq. ft (19 m ²) and 1,500 sq. ft (139 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Master Vehicle

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	4:30
Points to Qualify	90

Hides	
Number of Hides	4-7 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	No inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Vehicles	Between 3 and 5 vehicles.
Vehicle Orientation	Straight row, side-by-side, circle, square, triangle or perpendicular.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Master Container

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	4:30
Points to Qualify	90

Hides	
Number of Hides	4-7 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides must be blind.
Inaccessible Hides	No inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	4 ft (122 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Containers	Between 15 and 25 containers.
Container Orientation	Straight rows, staggered rows, scattered, clusters or shapes (circle, square, U, Z, S, etc.). Containers may be elevated.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



EXPERT

Level	Element	Number of Q's Required	Element Title*
Expert	Interior	3	I-E
Expert	Exterior	3	E-E
Expert	Vehicle	3	V-E
Expert	Container	3	C-E

Upon earning element titles Interior, Exterior, Vehicle and Container, participants will be awarded the **Cyber Sniffer Expert Level title (CS-E)**.

**Teams who choose the Food Hide Track will have a "F" appended to the title.
Teams who choose the Paired Odor Hide Track will have a "P" appended to the title.*



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Expert Interior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	5:00
Points to Qualify	95

Hides	
Number of Hides	1-8 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are blind.
Inaccessible Hides	May have 3 inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	6 ft (183 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 200 sq. ft (19 m ²) and 1,500 sq. ft (139 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4-8 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Expert Exterior

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	5:00
Points to Qualify	95

Hides	
Number of Hides	1-8 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are blind.
Inaccessible Hides	May have 3 inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	6 ft (183 cm)
Search Area	
Search Area Size	Between 200 sq. ft (19 m ²) and 2,000 sq. ft (186 m ²)
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4-8 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



CYBER SCENT WORK TRADITIONAL

Expert Vehicle

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	5:00
Points to Qualify	95

Hides	
Number of Hides	1-8 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are blind.
Inaccessible Hides	No inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	3 ft (91 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Vehicles	Between 3 and 5 vehicles.
Vehicle Orientation	Straight row, side-by-side, circle, square, triangle or perpendicular.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4-8 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.



Expert Container

Number of Searches	1
Time Limit (minutes)	5:00
Points to Qualify	95

Hides	
Number of Hides	1-8 total hides; total unknown to the handler.
Odor Type (if using target odor)	Birch, Anise, Clove
Blind vs. Known Hides	All hides are blind.
Inaccessible Hides	No inaccessible hides.
Maximum Hide Height	4 ft (122 cm)
Search Area	
Number of Containers	Between 20 and 35 containers.
Container Orientation	Straight rows, staggered rows, scattered, clusters or shapes (circle, square, U, Z, S, etc.). Containers may be elevated.
Distractors	
Number of Distractors	4-8 total distractors
Distractor Categories	Toy, Food, Sound, Person or Movement
Penalties	
False Alerts	No false alerts are permitted.
Faults <i>Deduction of 5 points for each fault</i>	Dog disengages and temporarily stops searching. Dog is destructive. Dog fails to properly cross the start line. Handler drops treats or toys in the search area.
Disqualifications	Dog urinates, defecates or vomits in the search area. Dog demonstrates aggression toward any person. Aggressive handling toward the dog. Unsportsmanlike conduct.

GLOSSARY

AGGRESSION: Lunging, snarling, snapping or biting a handler, assistant, person distractor or member of the public, human or canine. This will result in the team earning a disqualification and the dog being banned from further participating in Cyber Scent Work, Inc. Safety is a paramount concern.

AGGRESSIVE HANDLING: Giving leash or physical corrections, yelling or striking a dog. This will result in a disqualification of the team for the submitted search.

AGGRESSIVE ALERT: When a dog scratches, digs or bites at the hide location.

ALERT: What handlers must say when their dog finds each hide within a search area. Handlers may also opt to raise their hand as opposed to calling "Alert." Whichever method is chosen, it must be clear and obvious.

ASSISTANT: For online assessment with blind hides, the assistant is the person who designs the search area, sets the hides, times, videos and officiates the search, responding with "YES" or "NO" when the handler calls "ALERT" and "FINISH."

BLIND HIDES: The handler is unaware of the location of these hides when they are tackling the search. The purpose is to prepare teams for formal Scent Work competition where all the hides will be blind.

CHANGE OF BEHAVIOR: An involuntary response from the dog to detecting odor and/or finding the hide (*e.g., fishhook turn, sudden change of direction, opening/closing mouth, tail still/wagging, etc.*).

CONTAINER: An inside or outside area with items used to hold other items such as boxes, toolboxes, lunch boxes, totes, buckets, bins, luggage, etc. Space must be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, exposed wires, etc.*).

Containers **must** be a minimum of 24" apart (61 cm) from one another and any rows must be a minimum of 36" apart (91 cm). Hides must be placed within an odor vessel (*e.g., plastic tube or straw*) and placed close to a seam of said container to allow odor to escape.

CONVERGING ODOR: When there are multiple hides within a search area and the odor plumes from each collide and mix with one another, creating a complex odor picture for the dog to solve.

DISQUALIFICATIONS: These can be earned by the dog or the handler and will result in the immediate disqualification of the team.

DISTRACTOR: Either a toy, food (*contained*), sound, movement or person who is either within or just outside the search area to test the dog's ability to stay focused on the task at-hand. ***No distractors may be used in a manner that may startle, scare or concern the dog.***

EVALUATOR: Approved individual who will design, conduct, and officiate in-person assessments.

EXTERIOR: An outside search area that should have a **maximum of 2 solid walls**. Space must be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, poison traps, sudden drop-offs, etc.*).

Space may have a roof or overhang, such as a shelter in a park or overhang for a porch. Some examples include a backyard, front yard, exterior of a building or a public park.

FALSE ALERT: When the handler calls "ALERT" and the hide is not there.

FAULTS: Multiple faults may be earned within a given search.

FINISH: What handlers should say when their dogs have finished finding all the hides within a search area.

INACCESSIBLE: This is when a hide is located so that the dog has access to odor but cannot precisely locate source. The dog will thus be expected to indicate when they have found the strongest concentration of odor.

Some examples include placing the odor vessel inside a closed drawer, inside a closed closet, underneath the middle of a bureau or setting a hide at an excessive height (*5' or above*).

INTERIOR: An inside search area that should have a **minimum of 3 walls and a roof**. Space must be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, exposed wires, etc.*).

Some examples include a bedroom, living room, office, or lounge, portion of an interior training center, barn or warehouse, or a fully enclosed tent.

NQ: Non-qualifying score.

KNOWN HIDE: This is when the handler knows the location of the hide before running the search with their dog.

ODOR VESSEL: A metal tin, tube, straw or other object that will contain the scented cotton swabs and hidden within the search area for the dog to find. Used within the Odor and Paired Odor Hide Tracks. Odor scented cotton swabs **MUST** be contained within an odor vessel – ***no naked scented cotton swabs are permitted.***

ONLINE REVIEW OFFICIAL: Approved official who will review and provide training feedback, when requested, for online assessments.

POOLING ODOR: When odor travels and collects away from the hide within the search area.

Q: Abbreviation for earning a qualifying score.

SCORECARD: Scoresheet participants will receive upon completing a search. For in-person assessments, participants will receive a paper version of scorecard. For online assessments, they will receive a digital copy.

SEARCH AREA: Designated area a dog and handler team must navigate to locate the required number of hides within the designated time limit.

START LINE: Should be designated with a pair of cones and/or painter's tape whenever possible. The time for each search will start when the dog's nose has crossed the start line. Dogs must properly cross the start line or will be assessed a fault.

TIME LIMIT: The amount of time a team must complete a given search, meaning locating all the hides and the handler calling "**FINISH**". Time will stop when the handler calls "**FINISH**".

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT: Being rude or confrontational with the Evaluator, Assistant or any persons within the area. Will result in disqualification.

VEHICLE: An inside or outside area that contains items used for transportation. Space must be free of any safety hazards (*e.g., broken glass, garbage, sharp objects, exposed wires, etc.*).

Hides **MUST** be on the **OUTSIDE** of the vehicle and may **NOT** be placed inside the vehicle, including but not limited to, the glove compartment, in between the seats nor may hides be placed in the undercarriage of the vehicle. Up to two hides may be placed onto a single vehicle.

Some examples include cars, SUVs, trucks, buses, boats, tractors, motorcycles, bicycles, wheelbarrows, riding lawn mowers or planes.

VIDEO REVIEW: If a handler indicates they want training feedback, the Online Review Official will provide a video review of their entry and narrate training suggestions for the team.