

TEMPERAMENT TEST GUIDELINES

A certificate will be handed to each dog passing the test.

There will be seven tests for the dog to pass:

1. Neutral Stranger
2. Friendly Stranger
3. Umbrella Test
4. Acoustical Stimuli
5. Strange Footing
6. Threat to Handler
7. Gun Test

BEHAVIOR TOWARD STRANGER

Objective is to determine the dog's reaction to noise and measure the dog's alertness and curiosity.

- a. Neutral Stranger: A stranger to the dog and handler passes by ignoring both.
- b. Friendly Stranger: A stranger to the dog approaches the dog and handler and speaks to the handler, shakes hands and leaves. The stranger is not required to touch the dog.

REACTION TO ACOUSTIC STIMULI

The objective is to determine the reaction to noise and measure the dog's alertness and curiosity.

- a. Rattling a can with cookies. The dog and handler walk past a stranger who shakes a can of cookies.
- b. Gun Test. The assistant will fire blanks at a distance of five (5) meters from the dog.

REACTION TO VISUAL STIMULI

Objective is to test the dog's reaction to a sudden visual stimulus and to measure the dog's investigative behavior.

- a. Umbrella Test: The handler and dog approach a sitting assistant who is relaxed and motionless.
When the dog approaches the umbrella, the assistant smoothly opens and lowers it to the ground.
The dog should investigate the umbrella. The handler may encourage the dog for a limited time.

FOOTING TEST

Objective is to measure the reaction to unusual footing and willingness to accompany the handler.

- a. The handler and dog walk lengthwise over a strong plastic sheet laid flat, or over an opened exercise pen laid flat on level ground.

SELF PROTECTIVE/AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

Objective is to test the dog's capacity to recognize a potential threatening situation and show how the dog defends himself and his owner in a positive manner when faced with a threat.

- a. THE DOG MUST WEAR A BUCKLE COLLAR AND A STRONG LEASH. (NO CHOKE COLLARS). If the handler appears to have trouble controlling the dog, the dog may be double tied with assistance. An unfriendly stranger will approach the dog and handler with a stick and appear to attach the dog. At no time is the dog or handler touched or beaten with the stick.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Any Fila showing cowardice or aggression to its owner is immediately disqualified and cannot pass the Temperament Test.