



GOOD HOOPERS AWARDS - FOUNDATION



AIM: To promote good dog behaviour and responsible dog ownership. To have a good knowledge of the aspects of Hoopers as a low impact, fun sport for dogs. To encourage consistency throughout the training in a friendly and respectful manner. All training must be done using modern force-free techniques.

Eligibility: Any dog or bitch aged 16 weeks and older.

Criteria: Exercises should be carried out in surroundings with as little distraction as possible. Dogs should show willing to want to be with their handlers and interact with them.

When presenting dogs for this examination, dogs should be wearing suitable equipment. Flat collars, head collars, harnesses, lead are all perfectly acceptable. No choke chains, slip leads, prong collars, electric shock collars, electronic collar devices or any other aversive tool may be used.

Rewards/treats may be used during the exercises and on the completion of each exercise, no squeaky toys are allowed.

In order to pass the Foundation Good Hoopers Award, all sections of the assessment must be completed to the satisfaction of the examiner, if some sections are not completed the assessment will be rated as NT – **nearly there** and the handler will be informed of which sections they need to work on.

Exercise 1 – Handler Focus

- 1) When handler moves around the dog should show interest in remaining with their handler and the lead should be kept fairly loose. NOTE – not heelwork!
- 2) Handler should demonstrate that they can get the dog's attention and maintain it for 10 seconds.
- 3) Recall. This can be a restrained recall or a random call recall. The handler must demonstrate that their dog will return to them when asked to do so.
- 4) Handler and dog should interact with each other in a fun/playful manner for 30 seconds.

Exercise 2 – Basic Control

- 1) Dog should maintain the sit/down position for 10 seconds.
- 2) Dog should be able to walk past a distraction without too much hassle. may be another dog/pup/person.
- 3) Dog should be able to remain calm with their handler whilst other dogs and handlers walk past.

Exercise 3 – Directional Control

- 1) Dog should be able to turn a minimum of 180 degrees in a clockwise direction.
- 2) Dog should be able to turn a minimum of 180 degrees in an anti-clockwise direction.
- 3) Dog should be able to follow their handlers body language as the handler changes direction – front cross flatwork.
- 4) Dog should be comfortable turning away from their handler whilst moving around – rear cross flatwork.
- 5) Dog should be happy to move forwards away from their handler to a reward of some kind thrown 1 metre away.