

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction.....	3
Goals .....	3
Purpose.....	3
Rules And Regulations For Water Trial Participants.....	4
Summary Of Exercises By Level .....	9
Junior Water Dog Test Exercises .....	10
Apprentice Water Dog Test Exercises.....	11
Working Water Dog Test Exercises .....	14
Courier Water Dog Test Exercises.....	17
Courier Water Dog Excellent .....	21
Versatility Award .....	21
Description And Illustration Of Regulation Equipment .....	23
Administrative Guidelines.....	25
How To Become An Approved PWDCA Water Trial Judge.....	39
How To Become An Associate PWDCA Water Trial Judge .....	41
Appendix A: Water Trial Site Diagram .....	42
Appendix B: Modified Bait Bucket.....	43
Appendix C: Fishing Net Dimensions.....	44
Appendix D: Construction Of Site Markers.....	45
PWDCA Water Trial Judge Application.....	47
Water Trial Application.....	49



## INTRODUCTION

The Portuguese Water Dog, past and present, is a working breed. As a contributing crew member on Portuguese fishing vessels, tasks that were attributed to the breed included retrieving overboard objects, carrying messages, swimming fishing floats into place and guarding the boats, nets and catch when in port. The regular and successful completion of these tasks required teamwork between dog and owner, efficiency in accomplishing the work of the day, natural willingness and the intelligence to adapt routines to changing conditions.

The Portuguese Water Dog today exhibits eagerness, intensity and strong swimming and retrieving abilities. In order to preserve these qualities and maintain for the future the breed's natural instincts, the PWDCA has designed a series of water work exercises which reflect the historical working background of the Portuguese Water Dog. These exercises consist of two aspects: the dog's ability to perform a task and its willingness to do so on command.

The PWDCA Water Trial program is the beginning of another chapter in the history of the Portuguese Water Dog as it provides a context in which to record our present efforts to preserve the past and insure the future of this noble working water dog.

## GOALS

The goals of the PWDCA water trial are to promote an environment that encourages:

1. The development of the working attributes of the Portuguese Water Dog;
2. A strong bond between dog and owner consistent with the Portuguese Water Dog's heritage as a working companion; and
3. The creation of a modern water work activity specifically related to the breed's unique abilities and historical function.

## PURPOSE

The progression of test exercises and levels included in this manual is intended to provide Portuguese Water Dogs and handlers an opportunity to earn a certificate or titles based on water exercise levels completed.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR WATER TRIAL PARTICIPANTS

### General

1. The term "handler" shall mean either an owner of a dog who handles the dog during the test exercises or any other person authorized by the owner to handle the dog during the test exercises.  
"Participant" shall include both handlers and stewards, including substitute stewards.  
"Water trial rules" shall mean the provisions of this Water Trial Manual.  
"Water trial official" shall mean any of the following: judge(s); official trial stewards; the veterinarian and lifeguard(s) provided by the host water trial committee ("Host Committee"); members of the Host Committee; and any other person to whom a task has been specifically delegated by the Host Committee. At all levels, the handler may talk to the dog at all times.
2. Dogs and handlers are expected to perform in a natural environment, which may include wind, rain, sun glare, tides and currents.
3. Owners and handlers shall be responsible for the health, safety and fitness of their dogs. Subject only to the judge's authority to excuse a dog from competition, it is the sole responsibility of the owner and/or handler to decide whether to compete.
4. An owner or handler may withdraw a dog from competition at any time for health, safety or other reasons by notifying the judge or Trial Secretary.
5. Participants and spectators shall obey the directions of the judge(s), Host Committee and stewards.
6. Violation of these "Rules and Regulations for Water Trial Participants" shall be cause for failing an exercise, disqualification from competition in the trial or other action, including expulsion from the trial grounds, to be determined by the officiating judge(s) and/or Host Committee.

### Test Grounds

7. Dogs not actively competing in a trial must be kept on leash or in crates and at such a distance from the test area as not to disturb working teams.
8. No person on the trial grounds shall engage in conduct that is abrasive or dangerous to him/herself or others, or that disrupts the trial or interferes with any competing team or with any water trial official in the discharge of his/her duties. Anyone engaging in such behavior is subject to expulsion from the trial grounds.
9. No one is to physically discipline a dog while on the trial grounds except to ward off or prevent aggression by a dog. No person shall leave a dog unattended and exposed to conditions which may create a risk of injury or death. Anyone found to be abusing or neglecting a dog on the trial grounds is subject to expulsion from the trial grounds.
10. Waste containers will be provided and handlers/owners must clean up after their dogs.

### Test Area

11. No food, toys or other training aids are permitted in the test area at any time.
12. Dogs are not permitted to enter or practice in the test area from the time the site is set up until the end of the trial except when being judged and during the three minute warm-up period just prior to judging. During the trial, no one is permitted in the test area except a team (including substitute steward, if any) which is competing or warming up, the judge(s) and other water trial officials who are performing their duties.
13. A dog is not permitted to leave the land test area during an exercise and may be failed by the judge if it does leave the land test area.

### Equipment

14. Only regulation equipment is to be used in a water trial. (See "Description and Illustration of Regulation Equipment" in this Water Trial Manual). Participants may use their own equipment as long as it has been inspected by the judge (or his/her designated steward) to verify that it is regulation equipment. The regulation boats and site markers will be provided by the host club.
15. Dogs are required to wear non-restrictive harnesses at all levels including junior level. At the option of the handler the dog may wear a flat buckle or rolled leather collar, but there shall be no attachments hanging on the collar. This shall not preclude painted or stitched designs or information on the collar.
16. The handler, while in the test area, must wear a USCG approved Type I, II, or III life vest. If the life vest is an inflatable one, it must be inflated. Anyone in the test area who will enter the water or a boat is also required to wear one of the approved life vests. People who will not enter the water or a boat at any time need not wear a vest unless required to do so by the judge. The judge may choose to require life vests to be worn by everyone who will be near the water.

The handler and everyone else in the test area must also wear appropriate closed toe shoes. Sandals or thong-type shoes may not be worn..

### Test Procedures

17. A team must receive a passing score on each exercise at a given test level in order to earn a "qualifying score" for that test level. A qualifying score is required to earn a certificate or title.
18. Each team will be allowed a three minute warm-up period in the test area just prior to being judged. Any trial equipment used at the team's test level may be used during the warm-up period. The judge need not wait for the water to clear and may begin the test at any time after the end of the warm-up period.
19. All exercises are performed with the dog off lead.
20. Unless specifically permitted by an exercise description or these Rules and Regulations, the handler may not physically touch, guide or restrain the dog after an exercise has begun. An exercise is

deemed to begin when the judge says (or signals) "You may begin". At the Junior and Apprentice levels, the handler may gently guide the dog by the collar or harness between exercises. At the Working and Courier levels, the handler must control the dog without physical guidance of any kind both during and between exercises. However, the handler may physically assist a dog in boarding a boat from water of swimming depth and may, in the interest of safety, momentarily steady a dog on a boat platform while it turns, shakes its coat or is in danger of falling. Upon completion of an exercise, the handler may pet and praise the dog.

21. Before each exercise the judge will ask the handler, "Are you ready?" and upon receiving an affirmative response will tell the handler, "You may begin". The handler and/or steward then prepares for the exercise by throwing an article, placing a float line, dumping articles overboard, etc. Timing of the exercise starts when the judge says (or signals), "Send (or call) your dog" or, if the exercise does not require the dog to be sent, when the judge says, "You may begin". Exception: In the underwater object retrieve, timing begins when the object sinks. At the junior level, the handler may hold the dog by the harness or collar until the judge says "send your dog", at which point the handler must take his/her hands off of the dog. The judge will signal the end of each exercise and the end of timing by telling the handler, "Exercise finished". Hand or whistle signals may be substituted for vocal signals by the judge, so long as the signal system is clearly explained to participants before the judging begins.
22. The handler may not send or call the dog before the judge gives the signal to do so. The dog is not permitted to anticipate the handler's command to the dog. Unless specifically defined otherwise in an exercise description, "anticipation" means that a dog crosses the three foot line with all four paws before being sent or called in an exercise which starts on land, or leaves the boat platform before being sent in a boat exercise.
23. Verbal encouragement, commands and/or hand signals are allowed and may be repeated by the handler at any time. A whistle may be used by the handler to signal the dog.
24. In all exercises at all levels: a steward is not allowed to communicate with a competing dog except as noted, and is inactive unless a specific role or function is assigned in the exercise description or these "Rules and Regulations for Water Trial Participants".
25. "Double handling" during an exercise means any assistance to or communication with a competing dog by a person who is not specifically permitted by the terms of the exercise description or these "Rules and Regulations for Water Trial Participants" to so assist or communicate with the dog. Double handling will be cause for immediate failure of an exercise except where it occurs through an error made by an official trial steward. In that case, the dog must be re-tested on the exercise.
26. "Entering the water" means a dog moves all four paws across the three foot line or, in the case of a dog on a boat, jumps from the boat platform toward the water.

27. If a handler is physically unable to perform an exercise, the handler may designate a steward to handle the dog during that exercise. The non-participating handler must remain quietly in the judge's area during the time the dog is working with the steward. The steward performs the entire exercise with the dog.

#### Retrieving/Carrying Exercises Generally

28. Either the handler or a steward may throw the article unless noted otherwise. If the judge determines that a throw is inadequate, he/she will stop the exercise. The article will be recovered by the steward and the exercise will be restarted. If the handler elects to throw the second time and the throw is still inadequate, the third and any subsequent throws will be made by the steward.
29. The judge will determine whether the throw is adequate and will signal approval to the handler by directing "send your dog" as noted above.
30. The dog may drop an article on shore or in the water and the handler may give additional signals and commands to recover it.
31. The dog may be redirected by voice and/or hand signals from the handler to locate an article if necessary.
32. The handler may not assist the dog in locating articles by throwing other objects. At no time during any exercise may the handler splash or otherwise put their hand in the water except to receive an object from the dog.
33. All deliveries are from the dog's mouth to the handler's hand except at the Junior Water Dog level. Delivery to hand means that the dog brings an article to the handler and either deposits it in the handler's hand on command or allows the handler to remove the article from its mouth on command.

#### Retrieving Exercises From Shore

34. The handler must remain behind the three foot line at all times except in the underwater object retrieve exercise.
35. A dog must leave the water to deliver an article to the handler on land. "Leaving the water" means a dog moves all four paws across the three foot line.
36. The dog need not return directly to the shore point where the handler is standing, but may swim to the closest point of land. The handler is permitted to move anywhere within the test area behind the 3' line, however, once the dog has left the water, the handler may not move any more than one or two steps in any direction to receive the retrieved article. Delivery need not be to hand at the Junior Level. Remember, that if the dummy is dropped, it must be dropped close enough so that you do not move any more than that one to two steps in any direction to pick it up at this level.
37. If a dog leaves the water without the article it was sent to retrieve, the dog fails that exercise. In the Underwater Object Retrieve, the dog must deliver the object before leaving the water.

### Boat Exercises

38. Either handler or dog may enter the boat first.
39. At any time when required to be on a boat during or between exercises, the dog must remain under control and on the boat platform. The dog may be sitting, lying down or standing and minor changes of position are permitted as long as the dog remains under control.
40. The handler (or steward, where specified) may place one hand in the water to receive an article as long as the person's torso, or trunk of the body, remains within the boat. The handler's or steward's legs may hang over the stern. At no time may a handler or steward stand on the platform.

### Swimming With The Handler

41. The dog is not permitted to climb on the handler during the swimming exercises. The handler may brush the dog off once without penalty, but if the dog attempts to climb on the handler a second time, the team fails the exercise.
42. The handler is not permitted to support the dog in the water.
43. No toys or retrieving articles are to be used during the swim.
44. If the handler is a non-swimmer or prefers not to swim with the dog, the dog may perform the swim exercise with a steward or handler may walk with the dog swimming at his/her side. The dog must remain at swimming depth at all times. The handler is not allowed to ride the boat while the dog swims along side the boat. Special handicapped situations should be addressed to the Host Club and Judge, before the trial, so that provisions can be made.

### Starting Positions For Exercises

SHORE: Handler is standing on shore behind the three foot line and facing the water. Dog is at the handler's side under control.

BOAT: Handler is sitting or kneeling on the boat platform. Dog is at the handler's side under control.

OTHER: Position is explained at beginning of exercise.



## SUMMARY OF EXERCISES BY LEVEL

<u>Exercise</u>	<u>Time Allowed</u>
<u>Junior Water Dog (JWD)</u>	
1. Retrieve Dummy From Shore	1 minute
2. Board Boat And Ride With Handler	30 seconds, 30 seconds
3. Call Dog from Shore to Boat	2 minutes
4. Measured Swim With Handler	2 minutes
<u>Apprentice Water Dog (AWD)</u>	
1. Underwater Retrieve	1 minute
2. Retrieve Dummy From Shore	2 minutes
3. Dummy Carry, Boat Ride And Recall	30 secs, 60' boat ride, 30 secs
4. Retrieve Floating Line From Shore	2 minutes
5. Measured Time and Distance Swim With Handler	20 seconds, 2 minutes
<u>Working Water Dog (WWD)</u>	
1. Gear Bag Retrieve	1 minute
2. Retrieve Dummy From Boat	2 minutes
3. Retrieve Overboard Articles	3 minutes
4. Retrieve Dummy Between Two Boats	1 minute
5. Blind Retrieve Of Floating Line From Boat	2 minutes
<u>Courier Water Dog (CWD)</u>	
1. Courier Pouch Exchange	2 minutes
2. Blind Retrieve Of Floating Line: Boat To Shore	3 minutes
3. Directed Double Retrieve From Boat	3 minutes
4. Retrieve Fishing Net	3 minutes
5. Buoy Ball Placement	3 minutes

### Courier Water Dog Excellent (CWDX)

Dog and handler will qualify two more times at the Courier Water Dog level.

### Versatility Award

See page 22 for a list of the Versatility Packages.

## JUNIOR WATER DOG TEST EXERCISES

Objective: To provide an introduction to water work. To demonstrate the dog's readiness for and interest in water tasks and ability to perform basic skills necessary for title level work.

Overview: The Junior Water Dog level consists of four exercises: retrieve a dummy from shore, board a boat and ride with the handler, call a dog from shore to boat and swim a measured distance with the handler.

### 1. Retrieve Dummy From Shore

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to enter the water and ability to retrieve.

Equipment: Dummy.

Time: 1 minute.

Starting Position: SHORE; Dog may be held by the harness or collar until the judge signals to begin.

Procedure: On the judge's signal, the handler will throw the dummy at least 25' from shore into the water. On the judge's signal, the handler sends the dog. The dog will enter the water and go to the dummy, pick it up and bring it to the handler.

Notes: Delivery to hand is not required; however, the dog must cross the three foot line and drop the dummy close enough to the handler so that he/she can recover the dummy from where he/she is standing behind the three foot line. Handler is not permitted to move more than one or two steps in any direction once the dog has left the water. The handler's feet may move in place as he/she turns to receive the dummy.

### 2. Board Boat And Ride With Handler

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to accompany and remain with the handler on a moving boat.

Equipment: Boat with platform.

Time: 30 seconds to board boat, then 30 seconds riding on boat platform.

Starting Position: SHORE.

Procedure: The boat is at least 10' to the right or left of the dog and handler. A steward will secure the boat, keeping it in water deep enough that it will float freely once the team has boarded. On the judge's signal to begin, the team boards the boat platform. At this point, timing of the boat ride begins. The steward moves the boat while the dog remains under control on the platform until the boat returns to shore and the judge declares "Exercise finished".

3. Call Dog From Shore to Boat

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's trust and willingness to come to his master whether it be on land or water.

Equipment: Boat with Platform

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: Dog on shore, handler on the boat at the 60' marker.

Procedure: The handler will leave the dog behind the 3' line either with a steward or by itself. The steward may restrain the dog by its harness. The handler will proceed on the platform of the boat out to the 60' marker. Upon the judge's signal, the handler calls the dog. The exercise is finished when the dog reaches the boat.

4. Measured Swim With Handler

Purpose: Demonstrates dog's swimming ability and endurance over a longer distance and handler's control of the dog over a longer period of time.

Equipment: None.

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: SHORE.

Procedure: On the judge's signal, the dog and handler enter the water together, swim to the 60' marker, and return to the starting position on land.

Note: The dog must remain within close proximity of the handler at all times during this exercise.

## APPRENTICE WATER DOG TEST EXERCISES

Objective: To provide a disciplined approach to traditional water tasks that channels the Portuguese Water Dog's natural willingness and abilities to swim, retrieve, retrieve underwater and ride a boat.

Overview: The Apprentice Water Dog level consists of five exercises: retrieve underwater, retrieve a dummy from shore, carry a dummy to the boat and ride the boat, retrieve a floating line from shore, and swim a measured distance with the handler.

1. Underwater Retrieve

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's ability to retrieve and deliver an underwater object. In the process of retrieving the underwater object, the dog's full face must be submerged to include the eyes.

Equipment: There are three objects allowed. The bait bucket, wiffle ball, and a three handled fetch toy. See Description and Illustration of Regulation Equipment and Appendix B.

Time: 1 minute from the time the object sinks.

Starting Position: SHORE.

Procedure: The handler and dog enter the water to a depth of water that will allow the dog to complete the task as required and the dog is positioned parallel to shore. On the judge's signal, the handler places the object in the water at arm's length in front of the dog and parallel to shore. The object must sink immediately. As soon as the object sinks, and without further direction from the judge, the handler sends the dog and the dog retrieves the object and delivers it to hand above the surface of the water.

Note: The handler may lead the dog into position by the collar or harness. The handler may re-toss the object up to a total of two times within the time allowed if he/she believes the dog does not see it or for any other reason. The judge must be notified of the intention to re-toss on each occasion. The handler may point but may not put a hand in the water to assist the dog in locating the object. The handler remains in place and does not move closer than arm's length to the object unless repositioning it. As soon as the dog brings the object above the water's surface, the handler may step in as close as desired to the dog and object in order to take delivery of the object. If the dog paws the object ashore, the object is repositioned in the required depth of water in order for the dog to submerge its full face, including eyes, with no additional time allowed. The dog must remain in the water during this exercise until the object is delivered. If the dog leaves the water and crosses the three foot line with or without the object, the dog fails the exercise.

## 2. Retrieve Dummy From Shore

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's ability to retrieve and deliver to hand.

Equipment: Retrieving dummy.

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: SHORE.

Procedure: On the judge's signal, the handler will throw the dummy approximately 60' into the water. The handler must stop holding or touching the dog before the dummy is thrown. On signal from the judge, the handler will send the dog. The dog will enter the water and go to the dummy, retrieve it, and deliver it to the handler on shore.

## 3. Dummy Carry, Boat Ride And Recall To Shore

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to carry an article on land and bring it to the boat, ability to remain under control on a moving boat until called to shore, and ability to exit the boat under control.

Equipment: Dummy, boat with platform.

Time: 30 seconds to carry the dummy, deliver it to handler and board boat; 60 foot boat ride; 30 seconds to leave the boat and return to handler.

Starting Position: OTHER: Handler with dummy is standing on land 25' away from the boat (parallel or perpendicular to the shoreline) and facing the boat. Dog is at the handler's side or otherwise under control.

Procedure: Steward will secure the boat keeping it in water deep enough that it will float freely once the team has boarded. On the judges signal the handler places the dummy in the dog's mouth, without touching the dog. The dog holds the dummy while the team moves to the stern of the boat, where (without further direction from the judge) the dog delivers the dummy to the handler. The dummy must be delivered to hand either on the ground near the stern, or on the platform. The handler passes the dummy to the steward. Depending on the point of delivery, the team or the handler boards the boat. The boat ride begins as soon as the team is in position. (The team is in position when the handler is seated on the platform and the dog is under control on the platform.) The dog must remain under control on the platform while the steward rows the boat approximately 60 feet out from the three-foot line. Dog remains on the platform while the boat returns close to shore but still in floating water. A steward may intercept the boat before it runs aground. The judge will signal the end of the boat ride. The handler then instructs the dog to remain on the platform while he/she exits the boat and goes to shore. When the handler is standing behind the three foot line, the judge will signal her/him to call the dog. Timing of the recall begins when the handler calls the dog. The exercise ends when the dog crosses the three foot line and is under control.

Note: During the first part of this exercise, which ends when the dummy is delivered, or when time runs out, the dog may not enter the boat. Once the second part (boat ride) begins, as outlined in the exercise, the dog must remain on the platform.

#### 4. Retrieve Floating Line From Shore

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to retrieve an article which has been placed by someone other than the handler and deliver it to hand.

Equipment: 10' floating line, boat.

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: SHORE.

Procedure: On the judge's signal the steward, with floating line, will row across the test site approximately 60' from shore and parallel to the 60' markers and place the floating line in the water on the shore side of the boat. The steward splashes the line several times to attract the dog's attention, but will not call out to the dog. When the floating line is in place, the judge will ask "are you ready?" The handler may respond when he/she thinks the position of the boat and the line are the most advantageous for a successful retrieve of the floating line. When the handler gives an affirmative response, he/she must release the dog. Upon hearing the response, the judge will tell the handler

"you may begin" at which time the handler must send the dog. The dog retrieves the line and (without further direction from the judge) delivers it to the handler.

Notes: The judge will not ask the handler if he or she is ready before signaling the steward to place the line. The dog does not have to bring the entire line out of the water, but must cross the three foot line with all four paws to make the delivery. The floating line is placed rather than tossed in the water.

#### 5. Measured Time and Distance Swim

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's swimming and endurance ability, and ability to move with the handler in a controlled manner over time and distance, and knowledge of basic commands.

Equipment: None.

Time: 20 seconds for recall + 2 minutes for the swim.

Starting Position: SHORE.

Procedure: The team will position themselves on shore facing the water, behind the 3 foot line. On the judge's signal the handler will leave the dog on shore and, facing away from the dog, go out to a depth of water where the handler reasonably expects that the dog will be able and willing to swim. The handler will then turn to face the dog and, on the judge's signal, will call the dog. The dog must begin swimming within 20 seconds after the handler's command and must continue to swim in the vicinity of the handler for two minutes. Timing begins for the swim when the dog starts swimming. During the 2 minute swimming period the team must go at least once to the 60 foot marker, but not beyond the Water Test Area which extends to 15 feet beyond the 60 foot marker. The judge will signal when the 2 minutes is up, at which time the team will return to shore.

Note: The dog must remain within close vicinity of the handler during the 2 minute swimming portion of this exercise, and while returning to shore and leaving the water. If the site conditions allow the handler may choose to walk instead of swim with the dog.

### WORKING WATER DOG TEST EXERCISES

Objective: To demonstrate teamwork in performing a variety of useful retrieving tasks.

Overview: The Working Water Dog level consists of five retrieving exercises: a gear bag on land, a dummy from the boat, three overboard articles, a dummy thrown between two boats, and a blind floating line retrieve from the boat.

Note: The handler's boat is anchored or steadied at one of the 60' site markers on the shore side of the marker for all of the boat exercises at this level. How the boat is held at the marker will be determined by the judge based on conditions. Mooring buoy, one or two anchors, rowing by steward or other means may be used.

1. Gear Bag Retrieve

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's usefulness as a contributing crew member and ability to retrieve a weighted bag on command.

Equipment: A bag containing gear for the Working Water Dog exercises (retrieving dummy, floating line and buoy ball); boat with platform.

Time: 1 minute.

Starting Position: OTHER: Handler and dog are at the three foot line near stern of boat beached at shoreline within test area; team is facing away from the water toward a spot which has been designated as the pick up point for the gear bag.

Procedure: At the conclusion of the warm-up period, and in full view of the dog and handler, the steward quietly places the handler's gear bag on land 25' away from the team, and the steward moves out of the immediate area. On the judge's signal, the handler will send the dog to retrieve the gear bag. The dog may pull or carry the bag, but must deliver it to the handler. The exercise ends with the delivery of the gear bag. At the conclusion of the exercise, the dog and handler board the boat and the handler brings the gear bag on board.

Note: In this exercise, "anticipation" means the dog leaves the handler's side before being sent.

2. Retrieve Dummy From Boat

Purpose: Demonstrate the dog's willingness to jump from the boat on command, retrieve and deliver to the handler on board.

Equipment: Retrieving dummy; boat with platform.

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: On the judge's signal, the handler throws the dummy into the water approximately 50' from the stern of the boat and as parallel to shore as possible. At a signal from the judge, the handler sends the dog, who retrieves the dummy and delivers it to the handler. The handler will raise the dummy over his/her head to signal completion to the judge.

3. Retrieve Overboard Articles

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to make multiple retrieves before reboarding the boat, deliver articles while swimming, and the ability to retrieve an object below the water's surface from a swimming position.

Equipment: Retrieving dummy, floating line, buoy ball (all three articles may be placed in gear bag); boat with platform.

Time: 3 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: The oars may be shipped inside the boat to insure a clear working area for the dog. On the judge's signal, the handler will empty the gear bag of articles OR toss the three articles into the water alongside and towards the rear of the boat on the shore side. The articles should be about 3' away from the boat. On the judge's signal, the handler will send the dog to retrieve one article at a time and deliver it to the handler. When the handler has received the third article, he/she will raise it over his/her head to signal completion to the judge.

Note: The dog remains in the water until all three articles are delivered. In the event of extreme wind or current conditions, and at the judge's discretion, the boat may be unmoored and allowed to drift with the articles. The steward is also permitted to manipulate the boat to enable the handler to face the dog. If articles become tangled, the handler may accept one article delivered to hand, but must re-toss the other article. If articles become trapped under the boat, the judge may direct the handler or the steward to reposition them approximately 3 feet away from the boat.

#### 4. Retrieve Dummy Between Two Boats

Purpose: Demonstrates handler's control and the dog's ability to work with the handler at a distance.

Note: At the beginning of this exercise, the floating line is given to the steward and left in the steward's boat for exercise #5. At the conclusion of the Retrieve Between Two Boats, as the dog is boarding the handler's boat, the steward quietly places the floating line in the water on the far side of his/her boat, approximately 50' from the stern of the handler's boat and no closer than 15' to the nearest marker. The steward then rows out of the area.

Equipment: Retrieving dummy (in the handler's boat); two boats with platforms.

Time: 1 minute.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: The steward rows out to the handler's boat and the dog boards the platform of the steward's boat. The steward may anchor with the stern of his/her boat at the opposite 60' marker. Both boats will be held in a line parallel to shore with their sterns at least 50' apart. On the judge's signal, the handler throws the dummy into the water approximately halfway between the two boats and away from shore, so that the dummy lands at least 25' from the stern of each boat. On a signal



from the judge, the handler directs the dog to jump into the water and retrieve the dummy, which the dog delivers to the handler.

Note: The steward is not permitted to touch or direct the dog by hand or by voice before, while or after the dog boards his/her boat. Once the steward begins rowing away from the handler's boat the dog may not leave the steward's boat until it is sent to retrieve the dummy. There is no steward sitting beside the dog on the platform of the steward's boat; steward is in rowing position. After the dog has boarded the handler's boat, the handler must keep the dog from watching the steward place the floating line for exercise #5 until the steward has rowed out of the area. The dog should be positioned facing away from the steward's boat. The handler is permitted to touch the dog to prevent it from looking at the steward's boat.

5. Blind Retrieve Of Floating Line From Boat

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's ability and trust of handler in going for a retrieve which is indicated by handler's direction.

Equipment: Floating line (previously placed in water by steward); boat with platform.

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: (Steward has already placed the floating line in water 50' from handler's boat during conclusion of the last exercise.) Handler and dog are given time to visually locate the floating line. On the judge's signal, the handler will send the dog to retrieve the floating line. Dog retrieves the line and delivers it to the handler.

## COURIER WATER DOG TEST EXERCISES

Objective: To demonstrate the dog's proficiency in performing useful tasks which reflect the breed's historical value as an accomplished courier and contributing crew member.

Overview: The Courier Water Dog level consists of five exercises: a courier pouch exchange from boat to boat, a blind retrieve of a floating line located on shore, a directed double retrieve, retrieve of a fishing net from a second boat and placement of a buoy ball.

Notes: Boat Positions: Stern of handler's boat is anchored or steadied at one of the 60' site markers on the shore side of the marker for all of the exercises. In the first four exercises at this level, the steward's boat is held with its stern at the opposite 60' site marker from the handler's boat. Both boats are positioned as nearly parallel to shore as possible, and a minimum distance of 50' is maintained between their sterns during the exercises. How the boat will be held at the marker will be determined by the judge based on conditions. This might be mooring buoy, one or two anchors,

use of oars by steward or other means. Boats may be positioned farther than 60' from shore if water is insufficiently deep at the site markers to accommodate fishing net without drag.

Division Of Equipment: one courier pouch, two identical retrieving dummies and the fishing net go in steward's boat; floating line is left with judge's steward; one courier pouch and the buoy ball go in handler's boat.

1. Courier Pouch Exchange

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to go to others on command and cooperate with crew members.

Equipment: Two courier pouches, a second steward's boat. One pouch is in handler's boat and one is in steward's boat.

Time: 2 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: On the judge's signal, handler commands dog to jump into the water and directs the dog to take the courier pouch in its mouth OR dog may be given the pouch and then commanded to jump into the water. Pouch may also be attached to the harness for delivery. Dog delivers pouch to steward in second boat. After receiving the first pouch, the steward directs the dog to take or attaches the second courier pouch, the dog returns to handler and delivers the pouch.

Note: Steward may show the pouch to the dog when the dog is about halfway from the steward's boat. Steward may call or speak to the dog at that time. Neither the handler nor the steward may throw the pouch into the water and command the dog to take it.

2. Blind Retrieve Of Floating Line: Shore To Boat

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's willingness to leave the water and go to shore on command, and ability to follow handler's directions in locating an object whose placement the dog did not see and which is not highly visible.

Equipment: Floating line (left with judge's steward upon team's entry into the water test area).

Time: 3 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: During the previous exercise, judge's steward places the floating line on shore in the test area, 1 to 2 feet over the three foot line on the land side, parallel to the water. The floating line may be stretched out or placed in a pile at the judge's discretion. The handler is given time to visually locate the floating line. On the judge's signal, the handler sends the dog into the water and directs the dog towards shore to find and retrieve the floating line. Once the dog enters the water with the float line, the dog must return to the handler and deliver the float line without leaving the water again.

"Entering the water" and "leaving the water" means all four feet to cross the 3 foot line.

Note: The steward is inactive during this exercise. All persons including the judge must remain at least 25' away from the floating line. The dog is permitted to cross the three foot line in the process of retrieving the floating line so long as the dog is working.

3. Directed Double Retrieve From Boat

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's ability to take direction and retrieve two placed articles.

Equipment: Two identical retrieving dummies; a second steward's boat. Both dummies are in steward's boat.

Time: 3 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: Steward's boat is at the opposite 60' marker from handler's boat. On the judge's signal, the steward will throw whichever dummy he/she wants to first, with one thrown approximately halfway between the boats and diagonally to the right of the handler's boat and the other approximately halfway between the boats and diagonally to the left of the handler's boat. The dummies should fall approximately 50' apart and midway between the two boats. (Visual: the two boats and the two dummies together should form a diamond pattern.) On the judge's signal, the handler sends the dog to retrieve the first dummy. When the dog delivers it to the handler, he/she sends the dog to retrieve the second dummy and the dog delivers it to the handler. The handler will raise the second dummy over his/her head to signal completion to the judge.

Note: Either steward in the steward's boat may throw the dummy. The handler may direct the dog to the correct dummy at any time before or after it enters the water. The dog may not touch the wrong dummy. The dog remains in the water until both retrieves are completed. Only the order of the retrieval will be set at the judges briefing. Should drastic climatic changes occur between the participants, the judge reserves the right to change the order of the retrieve. If a throw is determined to be inadequate, the dummies will be retrieved and rethrown.

4. Retrieve Fishing Net

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's training and strength in working with the crew to simulate a historical task of the breed.

Equipment: Fishing net; a second (steward's) boat. Fishing net is in steward's boat.

Time: 3 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: Steward, with fishing net, is in the second boat which is at the opposite 60' marker from the handler's boat. On the judge's signal, the handler sends the dog to the steward's boat to retrieve the fishing net. When the dog reaches the steward's boat, the steward directs the dog to take the floating line end of the fishing net in its mouth. The dog returns to the handler's boat and delivers

the net. When the exercise is finished, handler drops the end of the line back into the water and the steward retracts the fishing net line.

Notes: The steward may not physically signal or speak to the dog before reaching the half way mark. Two to three feet of the floating line end of the fishing net may hang over the edge of the steward's boat and be visible to the dog as the dog approaches. These two or three feet of line may be waved or splashed after the dog has passed the half way mark.

#### 5. Buoy Ball Placement

Purpose: Demonstrates the dog's ability to perform a "reverse retrieve," ability to follow multiple directions in succession, and willingness to relinquish an object on command at a distance from the handler.

Equipment: Buoy ball.

Time: 3 minutes.

Starting Position: BOAT.

Procedure: On the judge's signal, the handler directs the dog to enter the water and take the rope of the buoy ball in its mouth. The handler sends the dog to a point approximately 10 to 15' beyond the opposite 60' marker. The judge will indicate when the dog is far enough past the marker. The handler will then command the dog to drop the buoy ball, and the dog returns to the handler.

Notes: The buoy ball may either be thrown into the water for the dog to pick up or handed to the dog, but not before the dog enters the water. If the buoy ball is thrown, it must be in the immediate vicinity of the boat, and no more than 10 feet. Once the dog has taken the rope in his mouth, or the ball has been thrown into the water, the handler cannot touch the buoy ball again. The buoy ball rope must be dropped from the dog's mouth approximately 10 to 15' beyond the marker. The dog may drop the buoy ball at a distance greater than 10 to 15' beyond the marker (e.g., 20'). If the buoy ball rope catches around the dog's neck or harness the dog must be directed to swim free of the rope so that the buoy ball is left beyond the 60' marker. (If the buoy ball has been dragged back toward the marker due to a caught rope, the dog need not swim the ball back to the original drop location. In this case, the only requirement is that the buoy ball be left beyond the marker.) In the event that a dog 1) has passed all the other Courier Water Dog exercises and 2) has made an effort to free itself from a tangled buoy ball rope but cannot do so in the allotted time for this exercise, the team may elect to be retested on this exercise one time after an opportunity to rest. The buoy ball drop must be in a line fairly straight out from the handler (not more than 10' to the left or right of the site marker). The steward is inactive and the steward's boat must leave the area for this exercise.

## COURIER WATER DOG EXCELLENT TITLE

Dog and handler must qualify two more times at the Courier Water Dog level. At least one of the three qualifying performances must be at a different site than the other two, and at least one of the three qualifying performances must be under a different judge than the other two. (Minimum of 2 different sites and 2 different judges.) It is not necessary that the dog be handled by the same person in all three qualifying trials.

## VERSATILITY AWARD

The Versatility Award program is for dogs who have earned their Courier Water Dog Excellent title. The Versatility Award is designed to demonstrate the ability of these dogs to perform all levels of water trial exercises with little advance notice. Versatility is not a title, but an award that provides the opportunity for a handler and dog to continue to participate in water trials while demonstrating these skills. It is expected that teams will enter Versatility multiple times. The Versatility Award can be offered at regional club hosted PWDCA Water Trials, as well as the PWDCA Inc. National Specialty Water Trial. It is an optional program. If the host committee chooses to offer the program, notice must be included in the premium list. The Versatility class will be run after Courier unless otherwise noted in the premium list.

On the day of the water trial, the judge will randomly pick one versatility package which will be performed by all the teams entered in Versatility. At the discretion of the judge, the package can be drawn at anytime up to 20 minutes before the first Versatility team is judged, allowing enough time for the handlers to select the appropriate gear and apparel. Each team will be allowed a 3 minute warm-up period in the test area just prior to being judged.

Each package consists of five exercises; two Courier exercises, two Working exercises and one Apprentice exercise. Only the packages included below may be used. All four packages must be included in the random drawing. For two trials on the same weekend at the same location, a separate drawing will take place each day.

The exercises in the package will be performed as required in the current Water Trial Manual and the teams shall be judged in the same way as the teams who are entered in the Apprentice, Working, Courier levels, except that the dog is expected to be under voice control and should not be physically directed between exercises, as is allowed in Apprentice. Teams passing all five exercises in the Versatility package, on the same day, will earn the "Versatility Award". This award may be earned more than once.

Versatility Packages. ( Note: A, W, and C indicates which title class the exercises are from)

- A.
  - 1. Underwater Retrieve (A)
  - 2. Retrieve Dummy Between Two Boats (W)
  - 3. Blind Retrieve of Floating Line from Boat (W)
  - 4. Courier Pouch Exchange (C)
  - 5. Buoy Ball Placement (C)
  
- B.
  - 1. Gear Bag Retrieve (W)
  - 2. Retrieve Overboard Articles (W)
  - 3. Courier Pouch Exchange (C)
  - 4. Retrieve Fishing Net (C)
  - 5. Measured Time and Distance Swim With Handler (A)
  
- C.
  - 1. Retrieve Floating Line From Shore (A)
  - 2. Retrieve Dummy Between Two Boats (W)
  - 3. Blind Retrieve of Floating Line: Boat To Shore (C)
  - 4. Retrieve Overboard Articles (W)
  - 5. Buoy Ball Placement (C)
  
- D.
  - 1. Gear Bag Retrieve (W)
  - 2. Retrieve Fishing Net (C)
  - 3. Directed Double Retrieve From Boat (C)
  - 4. Blind Retrieve of Floating Line from Boat (W)
  - 5. Measured Time and Distance Swim With Handler (A)

Note: In package D, the substitute steward may remain on the boat after the directed double retrieve, and place the floating line for the blind retrieve of floating line from boat.

DESCRIPTION AND ILLUSTRATION OF REGULATION EQUIPMENT

Retrieving Dummy ..... All levels

A one-piece commercial retrieving dummy to which a line no longer than 18" may be attached to facilitate throwing.

Harness ..... All levels

A nonrestrictive tracking harness of appropriate size for the dog.

Bait Bucket, Wiffle Ball, or 3 Handle Fetch Toy ..... Apprentice level

A modified plastic 4-1/2 quart bait bucket. The bait bucket measures approximately 6" high by 7-1/2" in diameter. It is weighted with approximately three pounds of stones or other non-shifting material. (See Appendix B for modification specifications.) 3 Handle Fetch Toy. The wiffle ball must be weighted so that it sinks immediately. It will sink faster if an additional five holes are drilled in the bottom.

Floating Line ..... All title levels

A 10' line 3/8" or larger with three to five commercial floats attached to maintain the line at the water's surface. The floats shall be no larger than 4" diameter by 8" long. The line may be knotted to hold the floats in place and at the ends. (10% ± line length tolerance.)

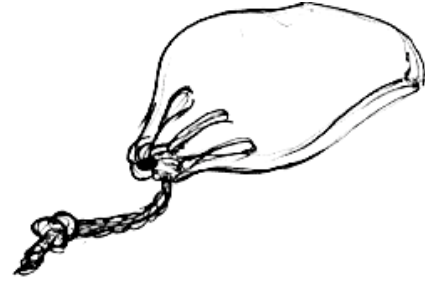
Buoy Ball.....Working and Courier levels

A spherical floating buoy (such as a standard AO marine buoy) between 10" and 18" in diameter, with a 6"-18" line (of any diameter) attached. (10% +/- buoy ball diameter and line length tolerance.) At the Working level only, the line must be nonfloating and hang straight down in the water. When the ball floats in the water, the attachment point of the line must lie underwater and at the bottom of the ball (see illustration). The line and/or the attachment point may be weighted to insure proper positioning.

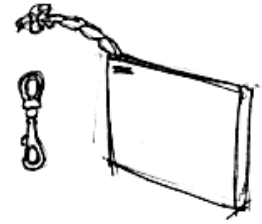
At the Courier level the line and/or attachment point may, but need not, hang under the ball.



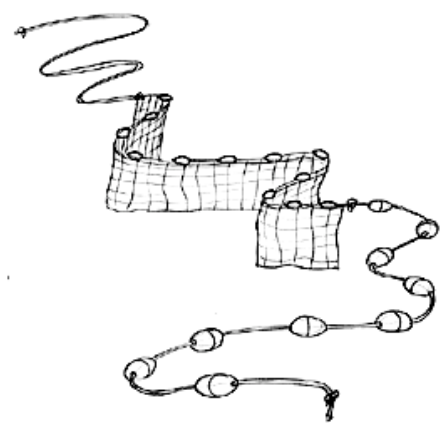
Gear Bag .....Working level  
 Any smooth-sided bag of flexible material (fabric and/or mesh) that is large enough to hold the retrieving dummy, floating line, and buoy ball. It may have a handle and/or a tow line of up to 4' attached. (10% ± line length tolerance.)



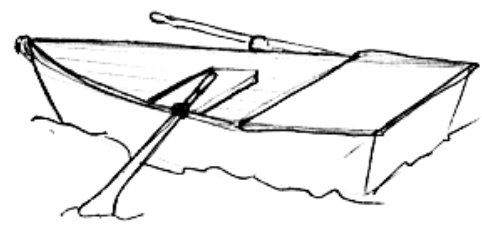
Courier Pouch ..... Courier level  
 A floating article approximately 6" by 6" and 1/2 to 1" thick that is carried in the dog's mouth. A 3" to 8" line may be attached to the pouch to assist the dog's grip. The pouch can be made by cutting a flat piece of Styrofoam to size, placing it inside a plastic zip-closure baggy, and covering the baggy with sturdy nylon pack cloth. You need two identical pouches. A quick release snap may be used for attaching to the harness.



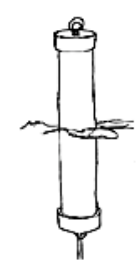
Fishing Net ..... Courier level  
 A commercial weight fishing net that is no smaller than 20' in length and 3' in depth to which 5 to 10 commercial floats have been attached to maintain the top of the net at the water's surface. A 20' line with 5 to 10 commercial floats is attached to one end of the net and a handling line of at least 25' is attached to the opposite end, for a total length of at least 65'. (10% ± tolerance for all dimensions except that the total length must be a minimum of 65'. Appendix C)



Row Boat .....All levels  
 A non-motorized boat with oars that is USCG rated for a minimum of three persons. The boat shall have a flat boarding platform attached on/inside the stern that is covered with a non-skid material and large enough to support a dog and handler. Boat shall be equipped with two anchors to be used as necessary.



Site Markers .....All levels  
 White 4" diameter PVC. (See directions, Appendix D.)



\*Boats and Markers will be provided by the host club only.



## ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

### Declaration Of Authority

The Portuguese Water Dog Club of America ("PWDCA") shall be the only organization to recognize and sanction Portuguese Water Dog water trials in the United States. The PWDCA shall be empowered to certify as a Junior Water Dog, or award the title of Apprentice Water Dog, Working Water Dog, Courier Water Dog or Courier Water Dog Excellent, or award the Versatility Award to any registered pure-bred Portuguese Water Dog, or Portuguese Water Dog with an AKC ILP (Indefinite Listing Privilege) number, who passes the relevant test exercises set forth in this Water Trial Manual. Whenever a difference of interpretation of an exercise occurs, the PWDCA Water Trial Committee, shall by majority vote decide an interpretation that will be binding on all judges, exhibitors, etc.. This interpretation shall be immediately disseminated to the PWDCA Board, all Water Trial judges, and local clubs, the latter of whom shall be responsible for posting it in any Premium lists (or if Premium lists have already gone out, in the Judging Program) that is required to be sent to those entered in upcoming trials by that club. Clarifications are to be sent in writing, and included in the Courier as they arise. The PWDCA Board of Directors shall be the final authority regarding disciplinary matters and protests arising in connection with any PWDCA sanctioned water trial.

### Duties Of The PWDCA

The PWDCA Water Trial Committee ("PWDCA Committee") shall review and rule on the acceptability of all applications to host a sanctioned water trial, shall maintain a record of all sanctioned water trials, shall maintain the judge's worksheets for each such trial as forwarded to the PWDCA Committee by the water trial host, shall maintain a record of all certified and titled dogs, shall provide to the owner(s) of each such dog certificate(s) reflecting the certification or title(s) earned by the dog and shall publish attainment of such certifications/titles in THE COURIER.

The PWDCA shall permit the use of the highest water title earned by a dog following the dog's registered name and AKC titles in all official PWDCA publications. (The Junior Water Dog certification is not a title for this or any other purpose.)

### Water Trial Host

Only PWDCA Sanctioned Regional Clubs and the National Club may apply to host a PWDCA sanctioned water trial. A potential water trial host (regional club) shall form from among its members a host water trial committee (the "Host Committee"). The Host Committee shall designate a Host Chairperson and a Trial Secretary, both of whom must be voting members of the Host Committee and either active, associate, or foreign members of the PWDCA. The water trial host shall have full responsibility for actions taken by the Host Committee and its authorized representatives in the planning and conduct of a water trial.

### Application To Host A Sanctioned Water Trial

An applicant must complete the Water Trial Application form contained in this Water Trial Manual and return it with a non-refundable fee of \$25.00 (payable to the PWDCA) to the PWDCA Committee Chairperson. The completed Water Trial Application form, fee and proof of insurance must be received by the PWDCA Committee Chairperson four months in advance of the proposed water trial date. If insurance expires before water trial date, then a new binder of insurance must be sent to PWDCA Water Trial Chairperson 30 days prior to water trial. On day of water trial, insurance binder must be posted at Water Trial Secretary's table.

The Water Trial Application form will be reviewed by the PWDCA Committee. Within 30 days after the PWDCA Committee Chairperson has received the completed Water Trial Application form and fee either 1) the Water Trial Application form will be returned, with approval indicated, to the applicant's Trial Secretary or 2) a written explanation of the reason(s) for denial of the application will be sent to the applicant's Trial Secretary. PWDCA sanctioned Water Trials may not conflict with the PWDCA National Specialty.

### Host Committee Duties And Authority

After approval by the PWDCA Committee, the water trial host, acting through its designated Host Committee, shall be the official representative of the PWDCA in the administration of the trial.

The primary responsibility of the Host Committee shall be the planning and safe and orderly conduct of a water trial for as many participants as practicable. In discharge of this responsibility, the Host Committee shall:

1. Select and set up a trial site (see "Trial Site");
2. Select a judge or judges for the trial (see "Trial Judge Selection; Judging Assignments");
3. Arrange for a veterinarian and at least one lifeguard to be available during the trial (see "Trial Veterinarian Selection" and "Trial Lifeguard Selection");
4. At least two months in advance of the closing date for the trial, advertise the trial in THE COURIER and at least one other national, regional or local publication which will reach Portuguese Water Dog owners;
5. Provide equipment for use by exhibitors and judge(s) (see "Trial Equipment");
6. Provide stewards to assist exhibitors and judge(s) (see "Trial Steward Selection; Steward Duties");
7. Maintain a record of all fees/moneys collected and expenditures incurred in connection with the trial; and
8. Investigate and decide any protests which arise in connection with the trial (see "Grievance Procedure").

The water trial rules specifically reserve certain issues for decision by the judge, particularly matters relating to safety, cancellation of the trial and the scoring and working of competing teams (see "Trial Judge's Authority and Duties"). The Host Committee shall decide all other matters arising at the trial

grounds during the trial. The Host Chairperson or Trial Secretary, either singly or together, shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Host Committee in deciding such matters and dealing with violations of the water trial rules not reserved for decision or action by the judge.

#### Trial Judge Selection; Judging Assignments

The Host Committee shall select a judge or judges from the PWDCA active judges list. The PWDCA Committee maintains a list of active judges qualified to judge a sanctioned water trial, and the Host Committee may obtain this list from the PWDCA Committee Chairperson.

A club may use an individual judge for no more than 2 trials per year. No judge shall be assigned to judge more than 35 teams in one day or to judge for more than eight hours in one day under a formula allowing 6 Junior Water Dog entrants per hour, 4 Apprentice entrants per hour, 4 Working entrants per hour, 3 Courier entrants per hour, and 3 Versatility entrants per hour. In addition, one-half to one hour for rest and/or meals must be allowed if more than five hours will be required under this formula to judge the teams entered.

If a Host Committee adopts a policy excusing teams from competition after one or more exercises have been failed (see "Failure Policy"), the formula may be revised to 6 Junior entrants, 5 Apprentice entrants, 5 Working entrants, 4 Courier entrants, and 4 Versatility entrants per hour. If a Host Committee adopts a policy excusing teams from competition at a National Specialty trial after one exercise has been failed (see "Failure Policy"), a judge shall be assigned to judge no more than 42 teams, and the formula may be revised to 8 Junior entrants per hour, 7 Apprentice entrants per hour, 5 Working entrants per hour, 4 Courier entrants per hour, and 4 Versatility entrants per hour. If the host committee chooses to excuse teams after two failed exercises, the original formula and the 35-team limit shall be used.

#### To Maintain Active Judging Status

Approved and associate water trial judges maintain active status by judging at least one PWDCA sanctioned water trial every 5 years from the time they receive their judging eligibility, and by maintaining continuous active or foreign membership in the PWDCA.

Effective January 2005, any water trial judge who has been approved for 5 or more years, who has not judged a sanctioned water trial in the previous 5 years, or has allowed their active or foreign membership in the PWDCA to expire, is considered inactive. A judge with inactive judging status is prohibited from judging water trials until judging status is reactivated. To reactivate judging status, the inactive judge is required to meet the minimum qualifications for becoming a judge as described in the most current Water Trial Manual, and must submit a letter to the water trial committee requesting reactivation. In addition, one observer judging assignment, completed within one year of the request for reactivation is required for reactivation.

#### Trial Judge's Authority And Duties

The judge shall be responsible for knowing the water trial rules.

The judge shall examine the test area on the day of the trial and shall determine if all the required equipment is present and safe to use, if weather conditions are favorable for a safe trial and if the test area is safe and properly defined. The judge shall have the authority to postpone or delay within daylight hours any trial because of unsafe conditions and shall have the final decision in the matter of cancellation.

During the trial the decisions of the judge shall be final on all matters affecting the scoring and working of teams.

The judge shall inspect all equipment used by an exhibitor in a test to verify that it is regulation equipment. (Such inspection of equipment may be delegated to a steward.)

The judge will take up a position so as to observe adequately each exercise performed.

The judge will not warn or interfere with a working team, except for reasons of safety, nor will he/she encourage any team after the team has started an exercise.

Judges are not permitted their own variations on exercises and must judge all competitors at a test level by the same standards of performance. However, some adaptation of exercises to site and weather or other unusual conditions may be required. Such adaptations are within the discretion of the judge. They may include, without limitation, determinations as to whether an article has drifted to the extent that it should be declared out of bounds and repositioned for a competing team, whether a moored boat should be unmoored and allowed to "chase" an article, whether to use an extra steward in a boat, and whether stated time limits should be varied in accordance with the following paragraph.

The judge will time each team with a stop watch to determine if the team completes an exercise within the required time limit. (The judge may delegate the task of timing to a steward.) The judge may allow a team a longer time for an exercise than the time stated in the test exercise description if, in the judge's opinion, 1) the dog is continuing to work at the exercise as commanded and 2) site or weather conditions or other unusual factors make the stated time limit too short or render it impossible to impose the same time limits for every exhibitor at a test level.

The judge will conduct a briefing for participants before the start of the judging at each test level. The briefing should summarize the test exercises at that level, explain to the extent possible any adaptations to be made in exercises because of site conditions or other considerations and allow participants a chance to ask questions.

The judge shall keep a written record of each team's score on an official judge's worksheet and shall include on that worksheet an explanation for any team that is failed, disqualified or excused. The completed judge's worksheets shall be released to the Trial Secretary at the conclusion of the trial.

The judge shall inform each team as to whether it passed or failed the test level at the end of the team's test.

The judge shall fail any team which does not, in performing an exercise, meet the requirements of the test exercise description in this Water Trial Manual or which does not conform to the water trial rules.

The judge shall fail any team whose dog leaves the land test area during an exercise, absent a life-threatening situation, unless, in the judge's opinion, the dog is continuing to work at the exercise as commanded while leaving and outside the test area.

The judge shall fail a team on any exercise where he/she becomes aware of any double handling, unless the double handling results from an error made by an official trial steward. In the case of double handling through an official trial steward's error, the judge shall retest the team on the exercise affected.

If, in the judge's opinion, any other error by an official trial steward has unfairly benefited a team's performance, the judge shall retest the team on the exercise affected. In the case of such an error by a substitute steward, the judge shall fail the team on the exercise.

The judge shall excuse any team in which the dog appears, in the judge's opinion, to be ill or injured. Solely at the judge's discretion a dog which exhibits lameness or other physical difficulty in performing may be excused or allowed to participate in a test.

The judge shall excuse any dog whose handler withdraws the dog from competition, and any dog that appears to the judge to be at risk of drowning.

The judge may disqualify any team whose dog is vicious, bites a person or, more than once, fights with another dog on the day of the trial.

If, in the judge's opinion, a team's performance on any exercise has been prejudiced by unusual conditions or by interference from activity in or outside the test area, the judge may re-judge the team on the exercise affected and, if needed, may allow the dog time to rest. The judge may reposition any handler or dog to accomplish an exercise when their performance has been or would be affected by unusual conditions.

#### Trial Veterinarian Selection

The Host Committee shall select a veterinarian who is licensed in the state where the trial is held and who will be available for emergencies during the trial.

#### Trial Lifeguard Selection

The Host Committee shall select at least one person trained in water safety and able to perform CPR to act as a lifeguard at the trial. At least one such lifeguard must be present on the trial grounds during the trial.

#### Trial Steward Selection; Steward Duties

The Host Committee shall provide at least four stewards per judge to assist the judge(s) and exhibitors. Any steward whose duties involve being in or on the water must be able to swim. Any steward whose duties involve handling a boat must have sufficient rowing skill to perform his/her duties competently. The Host Committee shall ensure that stewards are adequately trained for their duties and have a working knowledge of this Water Trial Manual.

The selection and training of and the assignment of duties to stewards may be delegated to a Chief Steward who will, with the advice of the judge(s), oversee the stewarding activities at the trial.

Duties of stewards shall include: 1) performance of the duties described in the test exercises and "Rules and Regulations for Water Trial Participants" in this Water Trial Manual, 2) keeping unauthorized persons from the land and water test areas, 3) ensuring that teams are available for judging in proper order, 4) directing questions from handlers to the judge(s) concerning scores, exercises or judging procedures, 5) directing protests to the Trial Secretary, and 6) reporting to the judge, Trial Secretary, or Host Chairperson any violations of the water trial rules brought to their attention.

Duties of stewards may include 1) time keeping for the judge(s), 2) registration and checking in of exhibitors upon their arrival at the trial grounds, 3) inspection of equipment, 4) acting as runners to carry information between water trial officials, 5) posting of results and information for exhibitors and spectators, and the like.

Stewards shall not give information or instructions to exhibitors except as specifically instructed by a judge and then only in a manner that clearly indicates that the instructions are those of the judge.

A steward shall be provided with a badge, hat, armband or other device which clearly identifies him/her as a steward and shall wear the identifying device while performing his/her duties.

#### Substitute Stewards

A handler may substitute an individual of his/her choice to perform any or all of the functions otherwise assigned to a steward during that handler's test, provided that the individual selected has trained with the handler and dog in question before the trial. Such an individual is referred to as a "substitute steward." A substitute steward should be named in the handler's official entry form or, at the discretion of the judge and/or Trial Secretary, may be approved on the day of the trial no later than the end of the judge's briefing for the test level in which the handler is competing. In either case, the substitute steward must sign an official entry form acknowledging the "hold harmless" agreement before he/she will be allowed to participate in the handler's test.

#### Stewarding Errors

A substitute steward will be assumed to have the knowledge of the Water Trial Manual and skills necessary to the performance of his/her duties. An error made by a substitute steward may result in a failing score for the handler in the exercise where the error is made. An error made by a steward provided by the Host Committee will not be grounds for a failing score in the exercise in which error is made, although the judge may, at his/her discretion, require the team to be re-tested on the exercised affected.

#### Trial Secretary's Duties

The Trial Secretary shall:

1. Publish a premium list for the water trial (see "Premium List");

2. Accept completed entry applications from eligible entrants;
3. At least two weeks prior to the date of the trial, send to each entrant an acknowledgment of his/her entry, with the test level entered and the identifying number under which the entrant will compete; a judging schedule showing the total number of entries at each test level, the order in which teams will be judged and the time(s) at which the judging and the judge's briefing will commence; and notice of any significant changes in information previously published in the premium list;
4. Notify all those whose entries are not accepted and give the reason for non-acceptance;
5. Compile and publish a catalog for the day of the trial;
6. Take custody of the completed judge's worksheets;
7. Receive, investigate and forward to the Host Committee protests arising in connection with the water trial (see "Grievance Procedure"); and
8. Compile and send to the PWDCA Committee the Trial Report (see "Trial Report").

#### Premium List

The premium list for the water trial shall contain the following:

1. Date and location of trial;
2. Name of water trial host organization;
3. Closing date (shall be at least 18 days before the date of the trial);
4. Test levels to be offered;
5. General eligibility requirements (see "Eligibility") and other limitations and restrictions, if any;
6. PWDCA officers;
7. Host Committee members;
8. Address and telephone number of Host Chairperson, Trial Secretary or some other person to answer questions;
9. Name(s), address(es) and assignments of judge(s);
10. Order of test level judging (if different from the order described in "Judging Order");
11. PWDCA source for obtaining copies of this Water Trial Manual;
12. Two AKC type entry forms meeting the requirements set out under "Entry Forms" in this Water Trial Manual;
13. Veterinarian on call at the trial;
14. Lodging information; site directions;
15. Statement of refund/cancellation policy;
16. Statement of policy on eligibility of bitches in season;
17. Notice regarding any discontinuation after failure rules that will be in effect at the trial (see "Failure Policy");
18. Statement regarding operation of waiting lists, if any.

19. Any categories of nonregular entries, which will be permitted at the trial, and rules applying to those entries, including priorities among them.
20. Procedures for moving entries up to higher test levels, including day of trial move-ups, if permitted.  
The premium list may also include advertising and information about awards, special events and additional activities.

#### Entry Forms

The entry forms included in the premium list shall contain the following: date and location of the trial, name of the water trial host organization, closing date, entry fee(s) required, name to whom entry fees are payable, name and address to whom entries are to be sent, test levels offered, and a PWDCA harmless agreement like that found on all AKC show entry forms.

The entry forms shall request the owner's name, address, and telephone number; the dog's registered name, PWDCA titles, AKC or foreign registration number or AKC ILP number, sex, date of birth and breeder; name, address, email address and telephone number of handler if different from owner; the test level entered by the handler and dog; name of any substitute steward; signature of owner, handler (if different from owner) and substitute steward acknowledging the hold harmless agreement.

#### Entry Fees, Refunds, Cancellations

Entry fees payable by entrants at a water trial and refund/cancellation policies applicable to entries shall be determined by the Host Committee and shall be published in the premium list.

#### Limited Entry; Waiting Lists

The Host Committee shall determine the test levels to be offered and the number of entries that can be accommodated at a trial. All test levels need not be offered at any one trial. However, a water trial host must offer each titling level and the JWD level at least once in any year in which it hosts a water trial. The Host Committee may limit entries so that a dog may not be entered in more than one level at one trial. The Host Committee must limit entries for the trial so as to meet the requirements regarding judging assignments. (See "Trial Judge Selection; Judging Assignments".) All limitations and restrictions on entries shall be published in the premium list.

Completed entries shall be accepted on a first come first served basis within each test level and category of entries. Entries will close when the published limits are reached, even if the closing date has not arrived.

The Host Committee may, but need not, establish a waiting list through which entries received in excess of the published limits may be accepted as positions become open due to withdrawals, etc. The existence and operation of any such waiting list must be described in the premium list.



## Eligibility

PWDCA sanctioned water trials shall be open only to registered pure-bred Portuguese Water Dogs, and Portuguese Water Dogs with an AKC ILP number, who are at least six months of age on the day of the trial. All dogs must be in good health and in proper condition for the test level in which they are entered.

Bitches in season shall be eligible at the discretion of the Host Committee. The premium list must state whether they are eligible and under what conditions they may compete.

The minimum age for water trial participants is 10 years old. Participants between the ages of 10 and 18 must have a parent or legal guardian present at the site while they participate.

Neither a judge nor any member of his/her immediate family or household nor any dog owned by a judge or any such family or household member shall be eligible to compete at a trial where the judge is officiating or performing an observer or provisional judging assignment. "Competing" shall include acting as a substitute steward.

A dog need not have earned certification as a Junior Water Dog to enter at the Apprentice Water Dog level. A dog must have earned an Apprentice Water Dog title in order to be eligible to enter at the Working Water Dog level. A dog must have earned a Working Water Dog title to be eligible to enter at the Courier Water Dog level. A dog must have earned a Courier Water Dog Excellent title to be eligible to enter at the Versatility level. A dog who has earned certification as a Junior Water Dog is no longer eligible to compete at this level in future trials. No dog may be entered more than once at the same test level at a trial.

## Regular and Nonregular Entries

Regular entries. Only entries received by the trial secretary before the closing date can be regular entries. Regular entries include (1) entries for dogs that have not earned a title or certificate before the trial date at the test level entered and (2) Versatility entries at trials where the Versatility class is offered.

A dog may also continue to be a regular entrant at the level of its highest title (not certificate) for 30 days after earning that title. However, if a dog is entered at or moved to a higher test level during the 30 days, it may not be a regular entrant again at the lower level where it earned the title.

Nonregular entries include (1) entries received before the closing date for dogs who earned titles at their test levels more than 30 days before the trial date ("exhibition entries"), (2) entries received after the closing date ("post entries"), including day of trial entries, (3) day of trial move-ups and (4) any other entries which do not qualify as regular entries. The Host Committee shall decide whether and under what circumstances any nonregular entries will be permitted at a trial and must provide this information in the premium list.

## Priorities Among Entries

Regular entries have the first priority for spaces at a trial. Exhibition entries (if permitted) have the next priority. Relative priorities among other nonregular entries are to be decided by the Host Committee.

### Move-ups

Move-ups before the trial. A regular entry may be moved to a higher test level at any time before the trial if the dog is eligible for the higher level. Nonregular entries may be moved to higher test levels before the trial if permitted by the Host Committee's rules. Procedures for moving entries to higher test levels are to be determined by the Host Committee and published in the premium list.

Day of trial move-ups. If day of trial move-ups are permitted at a trial, any team that passes a test level may, at that same trial, apply to enter the next higher level. These applications will be accepted to the extent time is available for judging such teams. Any team that enters on this basis will be excused after the first exercise failed.

### Failure Policy at the PWDCA National Specialty Trial

The Host Committee at the National Specialty may apply a rule under which a team is required to discontinue competing 1) after the first exercise failed or 2) after failing two exercises, but only if the use of such a rule has been publicized in the premium list. These rules may be applied at all test levels at the National Specialty Trial.

### Judging Order

Unless otherwise announced in the premium list or judging schedule sent to exhibitors, the order of judging of the test levels at a water trial will be lowest first, highest last, i.e., Junior Water Dog level first, then Apprentice, Working, Courier, and Versatility last.

Teams whose entries have been accepted for a water trial shall be assigned identifying numbers by a random drawing conducted by at least two members of the Host Committee within 24 hours after the closing date for the trial. The order of judging of teams within each test level shall run consecutively from lowest to highest identifying number. The judging order of pre-entered teams will be published in the judging schedule sent to exhibitors and in the trial catalog. Teams may be judged out of catalog order for reasons acceptable to the judge or Trial Secretary.

### Trial Equipment

The Host Committee shall provide at least the following items of regulation equipment: two identical retrieving dummies, two courier pouches and one of each of the underwater retrieving objects, floating line, buoy ball, gear bag and fishing net (see "Description and Illustration of Regulation Equipment"). The Host Committee shall also provide two regulation rowboats with platforms for each water test area, markers for the test areas and exhibitor numbers. The Host Committee shall further provide official judge's worksheets and all other equipment needed by the judge(s) to conduct the trial including clipboards, pens, stopwatches, lifejackets, etc. A judge may, however, choose to use his/her own equipment.

### Trial Site (Also see "Trial Site Diagram")

The water trial is designed to be conducted in an open body of water such as a lake, river or sea. The Host Committee shall select a suitable location.

The "test area" shall mean both the land and water test areas.

The "water test area" shall start at the three foot line and shall occupy at least 75' perpendicular to shore and 75' parallel to shore. These dimensions are minimum clearances that must be free of obstructions; they are not "boundaries" unless specifically stated as such elsewhere in this manual. Factors such as tides, winds, currents and other conditions may influence the configuration of the water test area at any given time. It shall be within the discretion of the judge to determine the boundaries of the water test area for purposes such as, without limitation, deciding whether an article has drifted to the extent that it should be declared out of bounds and repositioned for a competing team. (See "Trial Judge's Authority and Duties.")

Within the water test area there shall be placed two floating and highly visible markers (see Appendix D). These markers shall be 50' apart measured parallel to the three foot line and shall be placed 60' out from the three foot line. In setting up the test site, the Host Club will be responsible for making sure that the dogs will be at swimming depth 15' after leaving shore in a direct line to the 60' markers. A required swim of 40- 42' must be made to that 60' marker. Drought, tides, and other climatic conditions can alter test sites drastically. It is the responsibility of the Host Club, to make sure, that the swimming exercises are not compromised at these locations. If this means further retrieves, because swimming distances cannot be met within that 60' boundary, then so be it. The other alternative is to change the test site.

The "land test area" shall start at the three foot line and shall occupy an area measuring at least 35' perpendicular to the three foot line and 35' parallel to the three foot line. The land test area shall be roped off or otherwise clearly marked by the Host Committee. The line three feet from the water (the "three foot line") shall be clearly marked along the land test area. This shall include but not be limited to a visible marker on the surface of the land across the entire width of the land test area.

From the land test area there shall be a "water area entrance" at a place where the water deepens gradually. The water area entrance shall be at least 15' wide to allow teams and boats access to the water test area. The water area entrance shall be clearly marked if it occupies less than the entire shoreline edge of the land test area.

The "trial grounds" include the entire area of water and land which supports the participants and spectators at the water trial, including the water and land test areas, viewing areas, parking areas, crating areas, concessions, sanitation facilities and exercise areas.

#### Changes Of Judge Or Site

In the event that a site must be changed, the Host Committee shall make every effort to secure a suitable site within 25 miles of the original site.

Every effort will be made by the Trial Secretary to notify the PWDCA Committee and all entrants of any change of judge or site. If time permits, such notice shall be made in writing.

In the event of a site change after the mailing of the judging schedule and in the further event that any exhibitor was not personally contacted and advised of the change, the Host Committee shall post a person at the original site for a period from one hour before through one hour after the trial was scheduled to commence, or until every exhibitor not previously contacted has been contacted and directed to the new trial site. Further, at the discretion of the Host Committee and the officiating judge(s), either the start of the judging at the new site may be delayed up to one hour or exhibitors arriving at the new site late due to lack of notice may be allowed to compete out of catalog order and/or after the completion of a test level other than that in which they are entered.

### Trial Report

Within 14 days after the date of the water trial the Trial Secretary shall mail to the PWDCA Committee Chairperson a Trial Report consisting of the following:

1. A copy of the signed entry form for each handler and dog team which entered;
2. A copy of the premium list as mailed;
3. A catalog marked to show which dogs passed at each test level, which dogs failed, which dogs were excused or absent, which dogs made day of trial entries at the next higher titling level, and whether they passed or failed;
4. The original judge's worksheets;
5. A list of qualifying teams with the dog's name and registration number, the owner's name and address, the handler's name if different from the owner and the test level at which the team qualified;
6. A fee payable to the PWDCA in the amount of \$4.00 for each qualifying team at every level junior through versatility, including exhibition entries;
7. Reports by the judge(s), Host Committee and/or Trial Secretary regarding any use of rescue equipment or disciplinary measures taken in response to violations of the water trial rules;
8. A record of any protests received and decided and notice of any protests received but not yet resolved;
9. Worksheets of any observer or provisional judge(s) and reports by the officiating judge and Trial Secretary regarding the performance of such judge(s).

An extension to the 14 day deadline shall be granted if a written request for an extension, along with an explanation for the delay, is sent to the PWDCA Committee Chairperson within the 14 day limit.

If the Trial Report is not sent to the PWDCA Committee Chairperson within the 14 day or extended time limit, unless an explanation of extenuating circumstances satisfactory to the PWDCA Committee is made, the water trial host will not be eligible to hold a sanctioned water trial for a period of one year, and in

no event until the Trial Report has been received by the PWDCA Committee Chairperson. In the event that the Trial Report is not received by the PWDCA Committee Chairperson, the PWDCA Committee will make every effort to determine the results of the water trial and to award such certifications/titles as were earned.

### Grievance Procedure

Anyone who wishes to protest the action or inaction of any water trial official, participant or spectator must file a written protest or notice of intent to protest with the Trial Secretary on the day of the trial no later than one hour following the completion of the day's judging. The protest must describe the incident being protested, identify to the extent possible the parties involved, state the grounds for the protest and be signed by the person making the protest (the "complainant"). If a notice of intent to protest is filed, the complainant must complete a written protest as described above and send it to the Trial Secretary. The protest must be received by the Trial Secretary within seven days after the date of the trial.

If a protest filed on the day of the trial involves an obvious violation of the water trial rules, the Trial Secretary will make an effort to resolve the issues raised. The Trial Secretary will forward any such resolved protest, along with a report concerning its resolution, to the Host Committee for review. (For purposes of this grievance procedure, the Trial Secretary is considered to have forwarded any required material to the Host Committee if he/she mails or otherwise delivers the material to the Host Chairperson.)

The Trial Secretary will forward a copy of any unresolved protest to the Host Committee and to all parties named in the protest. The Trial Secretary will advise the parties that they may respond to the protest in writing and notify them of the date by which any such written statements must be received by him/her. (This date must be at least 20 days after the date on which the Trial Secretary sent the protest to the parties.) In addition, the Trial Secretary may (and, if so requested by the Host Committee, shall) interview parties named in the protest or any other persons having information regarding the protested incident and will make written records of any such interviews. The Trial Secretary will forward all such statements and records to the Host Committee, along with a report of any observations personally made by the Trial Secretary in the course of investigating the protest.

After consideration of all the statements and other evidence forwarded to it, the Host Committee will adopt a resolution stating its findings, deciding the issues raised by the protest and recommending any disciplinary action it deems appropriate. A copy of the resolution shall be sent to all parties named in the protest and to the PWDCA Committee Chairperson within 60 days after the date on which the original protest was received by the Trial Secretary.

Any person dissatisfied with the Host Committee's findings or decision may ask that the matter be reviewed by the PWDCA Committee. The request for review must be in writing and must be received by the Trial Secretary within 14 days after the date on which the Host Committee sent copies of its resolution to the parties. Within 14 days after any request for review is received by the Trial Secretary, the Host

Committee shall forward the request to the PWDCA Committee Chairperson, along with a copy of the original protest and the written record of its investigation (written statements of parties, records of interviews, etc.).

The PWDCA Committee will review the forwarded documents and make a decision on the protest within 60 days after the PWDCA Committee Chairperson's receipt of the documents. The PWDCA Committee shall 1) uphold the Host Committee's decision and recommend disciplinary action to the PWDCA Board of Directors if appropriate; 2) return the protest to the Host Committee for reconsideration or further investigation (with instructions as to the reason(s) reconsideration is appropriate and what further investigation, if any, is necessary); or 3) overrule the Host Committee's decision and substitute its own decision, which may include recommendation of disciplinary action by the PWDCA Board of Directors. Notice of the PWDCA Committee's decision must be sent to the Host Committee and all parties named in the protest within 10 days after the date of the decision.

The PWDCA Board of Directors is to be notified of any request for review and the decision made on it immediately following PWDCA Committee action.

#### Disciplinary Action

The PWDCA Committee shall forward to the PWDCA Board of Directors any recommendation of PWDCA disciplinary action in connection with a protest, whether received from a Host Committee or generated by the PWDCA Committee in review of a protest. At its next meeting following receipt of any such recommendation the PWDCA Board of Directors shall consider the recommendation. All parties named in the protest shall be notified in writing of the PWDCA Board's decision on any such recommendation.

The PWDCA Board of Directors has the authority to institute disciplinary action against any person or organization violating the water trial rules. Such action may include, without limitation, suspension of PWDCA membership or eligibility to enter/host sanctioned water trials and/or fines.

#### PWDCA Records

Any protest regarding the conduct of any judge or participant or the administration of a water trial by a water trial host organization shall be made a permanent part of the record with the PWDCA of the person or organization whose action was the subject of the protest if the protest is upheld 1) by a Host Committee (without request for review) or 2) by the PWDCA Committee after a request for review.

#### Sale And Distribution Of Material

Unless otherwise prohibited by state or federal law, the Host Committee may issue or deny permission to anyone who may wish to offer items for sale or to distribute materials at the trial grounds. No one may sell or distribute materials at the trial grounds without the written permission of the Host Committee.

## Proceeds

All PWDCA sanctioned water trials are non-profit events. All proceeds must be held or used by the water trial host for water trials or other non-profit activities which benefit dogs. Proceeds may be donated to non-profit organizations which benefit dogs. If a water trial host does not apply to host another sanctioned water trial for a period of two years, any remaining proceeds from the water trial(s) hosted by that organization must be turned over to the PWDCA at the end of the two year period.

## Revision And Reproduction

The PWDCA has adopted this Water Trial Manual in the year 2004. Minor revisions to correct typographical or grammatical errors or to clarify the intent of any provision of this Water Trial Manual may be made at any time by the PWDCA Committee. Substantive revisions or additions to this Water Trial Manual must be approved by the PWDCA Board of Directors by majority vote. Any revision or addition made to this Water Trial Manual must be published in THE COURIER in the earliest issue possible after the revision or addition is made.

No part of this Water Trial Manual may be reproduced without official permission from the PWDCA Committee.

## HOW TO BECOME AN APPROVED PWDCA WATER TRIAL JUDGE

### The Minimum Qualifications

- a. Active or Foreign membership in the PWDCA for one year.
- b. Handled a dog and attained all water titles through Courier Water Dog, on at least 1 dog at each level.
- c. Participation in at least one water trial as a Host Committee member or steward.
- d. Completion of one observer judging assignment with satisfactory ratings, and approved by the PWDCA Water Trial committee.
- e. Completion of two provisional judging assignments with satisfactory ratings, and approved by the PWDCA Water Trial committee.
- f. Possession of a current copy of the PWDCA Water Trial Manual.

Process to follow to be an observer judge:

1. The applicant submits a written request to observe the judging at a sanctioned trial to the trial's host committee at least 4 weeks prior to the water trial date.
2. The host committee chair forwards the written request to the judge.
3. The judge and the host committee together shall decide to accept or reject the request within 14 days.
4. The host committee will send written notice of such permission or refusal to the applicant.
5. The applicant must notify the PWDCA Water Trial committee chair of being approved to observe within 10 days.

Observer judging assignments must be completed under the supervision of an approved judge who has judged a minimum of five water trials, at two different trial sites, and hosted by at least two different regional clubs, excluding provisional assignments. The observing assignment shall consist of a trial with entrants at all levels. CWDX and Versatility are not required. An applicant may both observe and provisionally judge one time under the same judge. In no event shall more than two observer judges or one provisional judge be allowed per approved judge at a single trial.

The observer judge is obliged to be attentive and involved but shall not interfere in any aspect of the trial. The observer judge will be provided with blank judge's worksheets for all entrants that are clearly differentiated from the worksheets of the officiating judge (e.g., different colored paper). The observer judge will mark each exercise independently of the officiating judge. Conference between the officiating judge and the observer judge may be conducted at the end of each exhibitor's test at the discretion of the officiating judge. The officiating judge and the trial secretary will make written comments on the conduct of the observer judge. These comments and the observer judge's worksheets will be included in the trial report and sent to the PWDCA Water Trial Committee.

The PWDCA Water Trial Committee will review the comments of the officiating judge, the trial secretary's report, and the observer judge's worksheets. If the observer judge has demonstrated competence in judging the water trial exercises, the observer judge will be granted approval to pursue provisional judging assignments.

Process to follow to be a provisional judge:

1. The applicant receives approval from the PWDCA Water Trial Committee to pursue the provisional judging assignment.
2. The applicant submits a written request to provisionally judge a trial to the trial's host committee at least 4 weeks prior to the water trial date.
3. The host committee chair forwards the written request to the judge.
4. The judge and the host committee together shall decide to accept or reject the request within 14 days.
5. The host committee will send written notice of such permission or refusal to the applicant.
6. The applicant must notify the PWDCA Water Trial committee chair of being approved to provisionally judge within 10 days.

Each provisional judging assignment shall consist of a trial with entrants at all levels. CWDX and Versatility are not required. Each provisional judging assignment shall take place under the supervision of a different approved judge who has judged at least five water trials, at at least two different trial sites, and hosted by at least two different regional clubs, excluding provisional assignments. An applicant may both observe and provisionally judge one time under the same judge. In no event shall more than two observer judges or one provisional judge be allowed per officiating judge at a single trial. An applicant may not observe and provisionally judge trials less than 6 weeks apart. An applicant may not provisionally judge trials less than 2 weeks apart.

The provisional judge will conduct the briefings, run the tests, and judge the teams. The approved judge will be present to monitor, offer assistance if necessary, and critique the provisional judge's



performance at the conclusion of the trial. The approved judge and the trial secretary will make written comments on the provisional judge's conduct and effectiveness. These comments will be included in the trial report sent to the PWDCA Water Trial Committee.

The PWDCA Water Trial Committee will review the comments of the approved judge and the trial secretary's report and determine whether the provisional judge has demonstrated competency as a water trial judge. Upon receipt of all reports and judging worksheets, and a complete application to become an approved judge, the PWDCA Water Trial Committee may recommend the name of the applicant judge to the PWDCA Board for approval to judge PWDCA water trials. The Chairperson will also be notify the PWDCA Board of any applicants who are not recommended for approval.

An Approved PWDCA Water Trial Judge shall be eligible to judge all trial levels, Junior Water Dog through Courier Water Dog Excellent, and Versatility.

## HOW TO BECOME AN ASSOCIATE PWDCA WATER TRIAL JUDGE

### The Minimum Qualifications

1. Active or Foreign membership in the PWDCA for one year.
2. Handled a dog and attained all water titles through Working Water Dog, on at least 1 dog at each level.
3. Participation in at least one water trial as a Host Committee member or steward.
4. Completion of one observer judging assignment with satisfactory ratings, and approved by the PWDCA Water Trial committee.
5. Completion of two provisional judging assignments with satisfactory ratings, and approved by the PWDCA Water Trial committee.
6. Possession of a current copy of the PWDCA Water Trial Manual.

All of the procedures listed under "How To Become An Approved PWDCA Water Trial Judge" apply to becoming an Associate PWDCA Water Trial Judge except as specifically stated in this section. The observer judging assignment shall consist of a trial with entrants at Junior through Working levels. Each provisional judging assignment shall consist of a trial with entrants at Junior through Working levels.

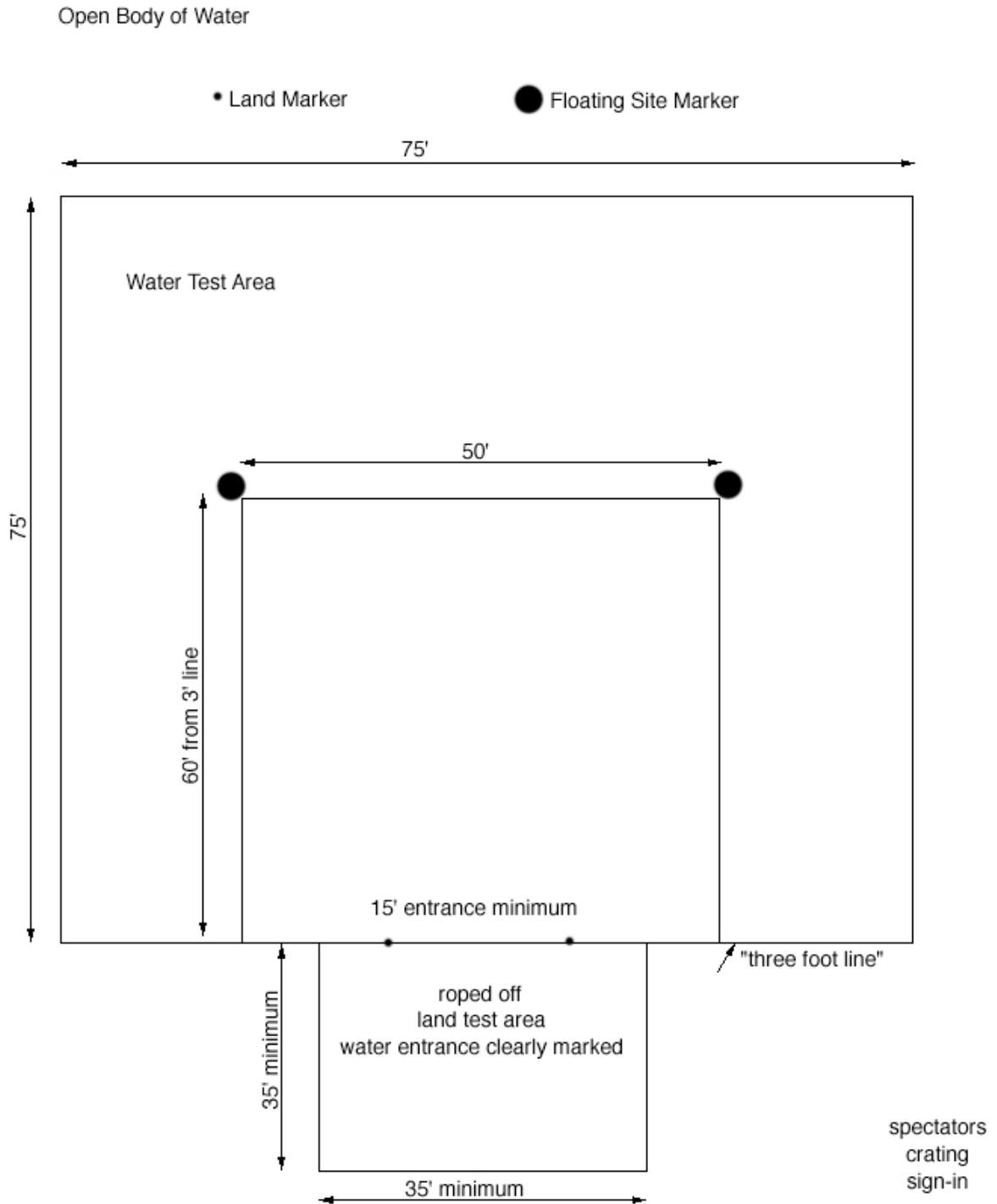
An Associate PWDCA Water Trial Judge shall be eligible to judge all trial levels below Courier Water Dog, including Junior Water Dog through Working Water Dog. An Associate PWDCA Water Trial Judge credential is valid for an indefinite period of time and is not necessarily an interim step in becoming an Approved PWDCA Water Trial Judge.

An Associate PWDCA Water Trial Judge may apply to become an Approved PWDCA Water Trial Judge upon attainment of a Courier Water Dog title on at least one dog and successful completion of further provisional judging assignments as follows:

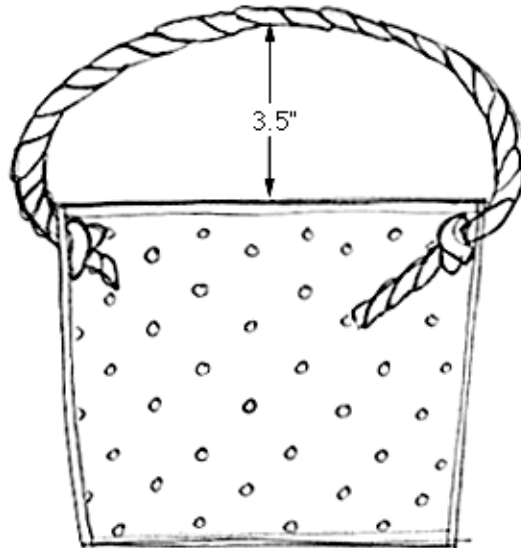
1. One trial (judging the Courier test level only) with at least three entrants competing in the Courier test level, or
2. Two trials (judging the Courier test level only) each with at least one entrant competing in the Courier test level.

APPENDIX A  
WATER TRIAL SITE DIAGRAM

Note: The dimensions given for the water test area are minimum clearances and not "boundaries." The water test area is subject to some shifting due to natural changes as wind, current, etc. and the judge's discretion will prevail.



APPENDIX B  
MODIFIED BAIT BUCKET



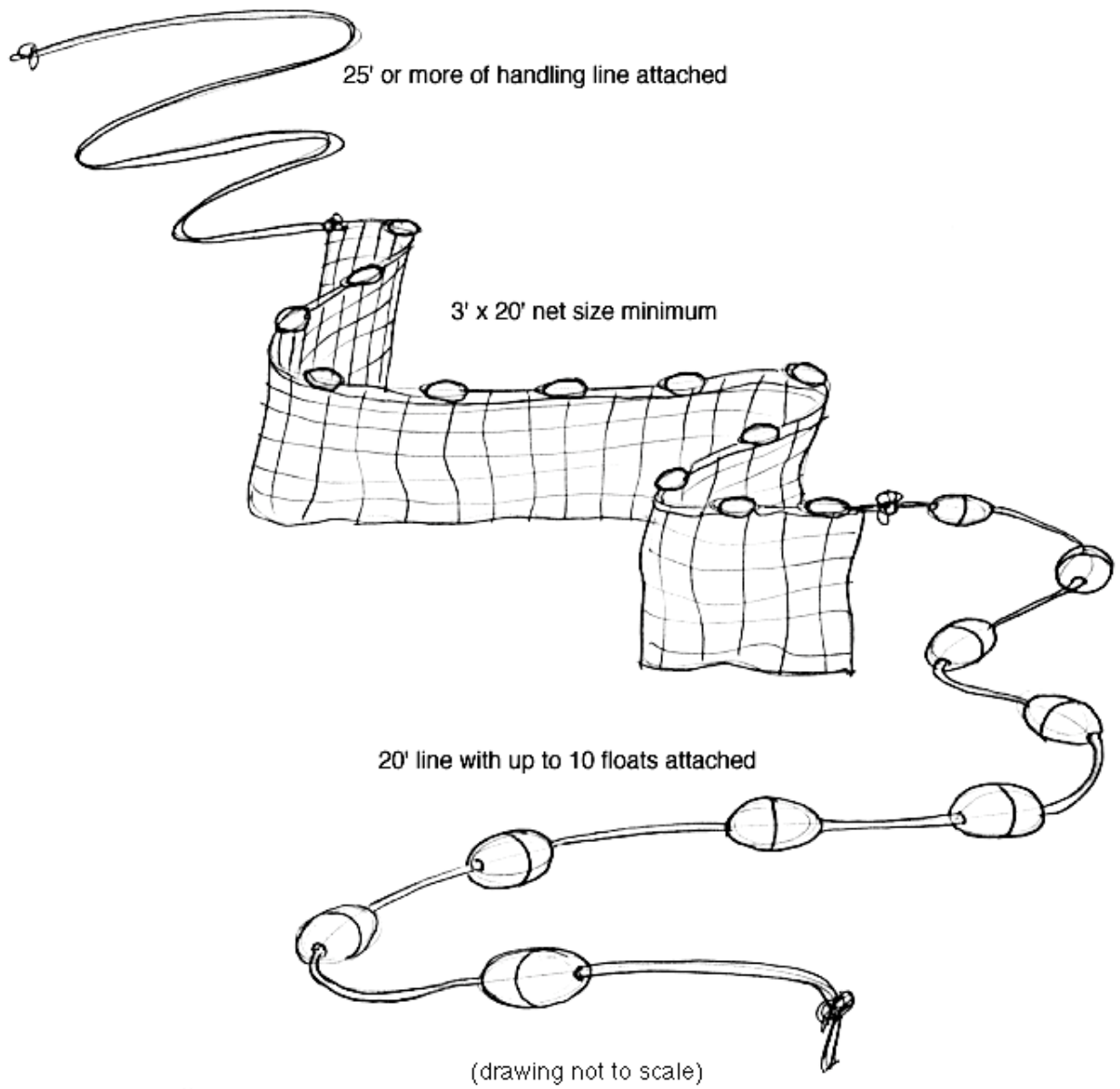
A plastic or metal 4-1/2 quart bait bucket .

To modify the bucket: Remove the plastic handle and replace it with a floating poly rope 3/8 to 1/2" diameter. You will need about 2' of rope, including the knots inside the bucket which hold the handle in place and can be used to adjust the height of the rope handle to the dog's size. On average, the midpoint of the rope handle should be about 3-1/2" above the middle of the bait bucket top.

The bucket needs to have at least 1/2" holes drilled on the sides and bottom about 1" apart. When you are finished the bucket should resemble a sieve or colander.

Approximately four rocks or other weight source weighing a total of approximately 3 pounds should be placed in the bottom of the bait bucket. In order for the bait bucket to qualify as regulation equipment, the weight source must not tend to shift and must fill the bottom of the bucket evenly. (This is required to minimize tipping of the bucket when moved or placed.)

APPENDIX C  
FISHING NET DIMENSIONS



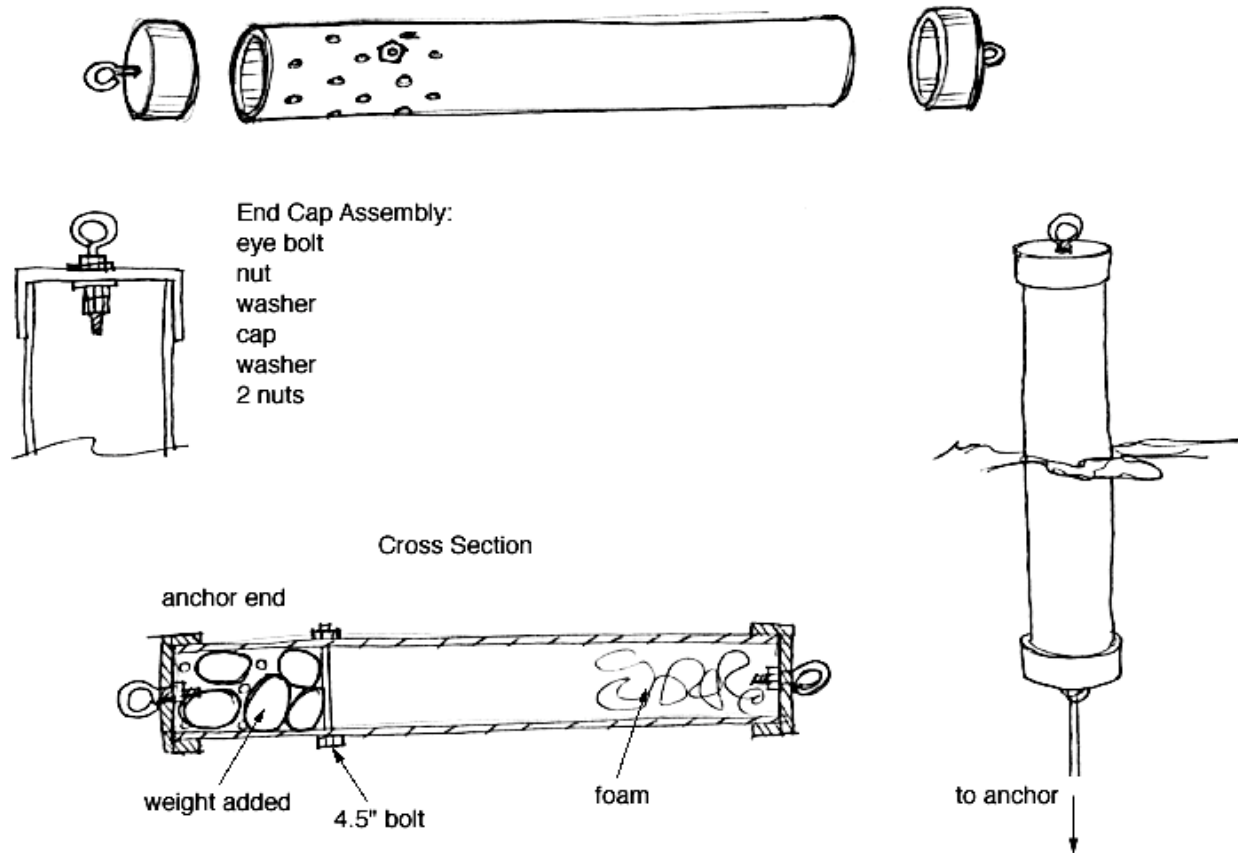
APPENDIX D  
CONSTRUCTION OF SITE MARKERS

Materials To Make One Self-Righting Marker

- 1 4" diameter CPVC, 48" long \*
  - 2 4" diameter caps for CPVC
  - 1 4-1/2" bolt and nut
  - 2 2" x 1/4" eye bolt and 6 nuts or same size eye screws and piece of wood inside cap to secure
- (Note: it is recommended that the marker have an eye at each end. The one on the bottom is for attaching the anchor. The one on the top is for attaching the boat, or for temporarily attaching lines.)
- Great Stuff spray foam
  - About 5 pounds of weights
  - Cleaner and cement for CPVC
  - length depends on water depth; shorter for shallow water

Directions to Make a Self-Righting Marker

1. Assemble ends with eye bolts attached securely to caps.
2. Drill half inch holes in the bottom 1/3 of the 48" long pipe.
3. Cement the anchor end cap to the pipe.
4. Add weight and fasten 4-1/2" bolt and nut to retain weight at the end of the pipe.
5. Add foam and cement the top cap to the pipe last. There will be air pressure resisting the second cap. Use a clamp to hold in place until cement sets.



Directions to Make a Sealed Marker

A simple marker can be made without weights and foam, as shown on the right. Using pipe and end caps as outlined above, assemble a watertight empty pipe. Seal the eye bolts with silicone caulk on the inside of the end caps before cementing the caps to the pipe, and seal around the end caps with silicon caulk after assembly. These markers will not stay upright in the water without an anchor attached, but they work the same as the self-righting markers when they are anchored in such a way that keeps them upright during the trial.



PWDCA WATER TRIAL JUDGE APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Active or Foreign member of the PWDCA: [ ] Yes [ ] No since (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Copy Of PWDCA Water Trial Manual: [ ] Yes [ ] No

Observer Judge Assignment(s) Completed: [ ] Yes [ ] No

#1 Date \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Provisional Judging Assignment(s) Completed: [ ] Yes [ ] No

#1 Date \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

#2 Date \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Earned Apprentice Title On A Portuguese Water Dog:

When \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Dog \_\_\_\_\_

Earned Working Title On A Portuguese Water Dog:

When \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Dog \_\_\_\_\_

Earned Courier Title On A Portuguese Water Dog:

When \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Dog \_\_\_\_\_

I Am Applying For:

[ ] Approved PWDCA Water Trial Judge Status

[ ] Associate PWDCA Water Trial Judge Status

Brief Resume: Please include any other judging and/or dog training experiences that may be helpful in evaluating your application. Attach an additional sheet if necessary.





# Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc. - Water Test Application

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Test Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Test: \_\_\_\_\_

Water Type: (circle) Ocean River Natural Lake Man-Made Lake Reservoir Other \_\_\_\_\_

Water Entrance: (circle) Sand Gravel Rock Asphalt Concrete Grass/Dirt Other \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Water Depth: (from 3ft shore marker) 25ft out \_\_\_\_\_ 50 ft out \_\_\_\_\_

## Test Levels to be Offered

- ( ) Junior Water Dog Certificate ( ) Working Water Dog Title ( ) Versatility Award  
( ) Apprentice Water Dog Title ( ) Courier Water Dog Title

## Approved PWDCA Judge(s)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Levels Judging: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Levels Judging: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

## Entry Limits: 35 teams Max. per Judge per 8 hours

Teams per level: \_\_\_\_\_ / Bitches in Season: No or YES or YES w/conditions

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Refund Policy \_\_\_\_\_

## Water Test Committee ALL MUST BE EITHER ACTIVE, ASSOCIATE OR FOREIGN MEMBERS OF PWDCA

The Water Test Host Committee, belonging to the Regional Club(name of club) \_\_\_\_\_

hereby agrees to abide by all PWDCA Water Test Regulations.

Committee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Test Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Member(s): \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Attached is a Certificate of Insurance for Test date(s), Location, and Host Organization.

( ) Attached is a check in the amount of \$25.00 *per trial* for the non-refundable Water Test Application Fee.  
(payable to PWDCA)

Note: Upon request by a Host Club, the PWDCA will support all Sanctioned Club Water Trials up to a maximum of \$200 per year, excluding National Specialty Water Trials. Send request directly to the PWDCA treasurer.

Submit Application, Proof of Insurance, and Application Fee to PWDCA Water Trial Committee Chair.

PWDCA ACTION (please don't write in this space)

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Review Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notification Date \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Approval

( ) Denial Reasons for Denial: