



THE HELPER ACADEMY



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IGP TRIAL HELPER MANUAL

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IGP TRIAL HELPER MANUAL

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Mission Statement:

To provide a friendly and unintimidating platform for beginners who wish to learn trial helper work and to help those who already have experience to improve maximum potential. We seek to co-exist and work with existing Helper Programs

and see no reason why a helper or teaching helper needs to be affiliated exclusively with one organization. In fact, we hope that there will be dual organizational helper seminars with Teaching Helpers from various organizations.

Preface:

This IGP Trial Helper Manual (“the Manual”) of The Helper Academy ©_{2020, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED} is the official document pertaining to IGP **Trial** Helper Work for The Helper Academy and its participating organizations (“THA”). Please note that our program gives deference to, applauds and officially acknowledges the status other IGP organizations have designated to individual trial helpers in their Trial Helper Programs. This IGP TRIAL

HELPER PROGRAM does **not** require “exclusivity,” and thus, we have no issues with any of the Teaching Helpers or Helpers who are a part of this Program, belonging to another. Also, we understand that everyone is busy and there are no teaching seminar (event) requirements, per se, but we ask that each faculty member try to mentor individuals and answer questions whenever possible.

This Program is distinct from The Helper Academy Training Helper Program, although some Faculty Members have faculty status in both programs. The skillset level and knowledge are quite different but of course an individual can be both an excellent trial helper and a training helper but some individuals are great trial helpers but not great training

helpers and some are great training helpers but have no interest in being a great trial helper. It depends on the individual but we are thankful for all who don't mind suiting up.

Also, the AWDF Helper Committee is a distinct committee that chooses the helpers for the annual AWDF Championship.

Non-Discriminatory Policy

All Faculty Members and All Certified Helpers are asked to comply with a non-discriminatory policy regarding helper work evaluation and comportment meaning that marital status, age, race, religion, and sex as in gender bias or sexual harassment shall not be considered or engaged in /effectuated while performing duties hereunder.

Please utilize a “neutral; unbiased; “everyone is the same” policy when comporting yourself as a Helper and/or Faculty Member.

Ethics Policy

We are cognizant of the reality that many helpers earn some portion of their living through helper work. Time spent as an THA IGP Trial Teaching Helper must be exclusive (for that particular time only) and no-client – trainer relationship can co-exist during, for example, a THA IGP Trial Helper Seminar that the THA IGP Trial Teaching Helper is presiding over. Similarly, and especially for THA IGP Trial Teaching or Level 3 Star or above Helpers who will work a championship trial, the rules regarding helpers working dogs entered in the championship must

be adhered to. The usual rule is two weeks out meaning two weeks from the draw, you cannot dogs entered in the trial. This is one reason why entries close on a certain date—to establish the parameters. There are those of the “fuss is fuss” mentality who insist none of that matters but there is also a tradition of helpers not working dogs entered in national or regional championships two weeks out (each organization establishes its own rules). We ask ALL Helpers to avoid even the appearance of impropriety and situations where criticism about performance or favoritism can be proffered but have no opinion whatsoever in regards to private business relationships that occur outside of official THA IGP Trial Helper Seminars.

Examples:

At a Regional or National Event, Helper Hank worked the dogs great on Friday, but he stayed out drinking till late Friday night with the competitors who had completed stadium work, so he was hung over on Saturday and “worked so and so’s dog like &\$^#! and the work was different on Saturday and worse yet Sunday.”

Perhaps laying low and not staying out late would prevent anyone from criticizing because criticism may come.

“Helper Hannah works with Handler Harriett on a regular basis, so she purposely gave my dog a bad grip and had a noodle arm on the lockout so my outs were slow, so I would place lower than Handler Harriett. Helper Hannah also tried to help Handler Harriet by

exclaiming to the crowd that her dog was a banger and a smoker. Helper Hannah also said that to the judge before and after the routine!" As a former competitor and trial helper I always appreciated the helpers that did not offer comments unless asked by the judge.

THA TRIAL TEACHING HELPER "Fred" is approached by "Hans" who wants to retain Fred for private transaction outside the scope of duties created by this Program. There is no conflict here as long as a certification is not part of the fee.

THA IGP TRIAL TEACHING HELPER "B" is contacted by Handler "C" who asks Helper B to work Handler C's dog on a regular basis for a fee. This, too, is a private business transaction outside the scope of duties created by this Program.

Representatives of the Sport

Helpers are ambassadors and representatives of the sport. Handlers look to trial helpers to be impartial in their hope for fairness. Helpers can use their exalted position to clarify confusion regarding the use of the padded stick, for example, to the general public. The administered padded stick contact is not anything punitive nor does it cause pain to the dog. Rather, the padded stick's original intent was to determine temperament and breeding suitability (whether to include the dog in a breeding program). Remember in Germany, a minimum of a Schutzhund 1 (now IGP 1) was required to breed. The canine's ability to withstand the padded stick is also a test of the canine's degree of

domestication and ability to co-exist with man. The well-tempered canine shows no grudge or fear of a helper who has administered the stick contact after the handler signals that the protection routine has been completed. The well-tempered canine, as a result of seeing or being exposed to a padded stick, does not then become wary every time someone uses a broom or washes a window. It is up to helpers to articulate such concepts to those wary of **our** sport who would have us be prevented from enjoying and utilizing and practicing the sport of IGP.

Topics That Are Covered and Not Covered

Trial Helper “Comportment” (the abilities of the particular helper being evaluated)

within the context of the rules and what actually takes place during an IGP Protection Routine are addressed per segment of the scored exercise component, as are the Program's (5) classifications. Please note that the THA **Training** Helper Program is a distinct program with different faculty and requirements, although and again, some individuals may be active in both entities.

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Classifications

Designation	Description	Requirement
Faculty (5 Stars)	Can lead seminars and certifications and classify helpers at his or her discretion upon a satisfactory background check	50 or more dogs worked at IGP trials with at least 5 Excellent Ratings or 1 or More National Events Rated As Excellent or 3 Regional Events. This is a suggested parameter.
4 Star	Deemed by Two Distinct Faculty Members to possess the character and abilities to perform IGP 3 protection work at the National Championship level. Faculty Members must keep in mind that between 30 and 100 dogs are worked at the Championship level.	Perform and be graded on an IGP 1 and IGP 3 routine within the same review session. Recertification is required every 4 th year. Must be rated excellent for both routines. Should get a 90 or above average for the IGP 1 and IGP 3 routines.
3 Star	Deemed by One Faculty Member to possess the ability to work a Regional Trial.	Same testing and recertification as 4 star. Just a bit more to go before attaining 4 start. Must be rated very good for both routines. If not excellent, then 3 Star applies. Should get 85 to 90 average..
2 Star	Deemed by a Faculty Member to be able to perform a Club Trial at the IGP 1,2 and 3 Level.	Must perform an IGP 1 and IGP 3 routine and receive a good rating. Should get above 80 on the IGP 1, preferably 90..
1 Star	The future of our dog sport.	No requirement. Just needs experience.

Entry Into the THA IGP Trial Helper Program

A THA IGP Trial Helper Book is required to participate in the program, as is a completed application and fee which will cover the cost of the Helper Book and Postage. **Membership within an AWDF breed or sport club, including an affiliation through the WGSDPA, is required. Please note that the THA Evaluation Book may be used by other AWDF member organizations.**

Please note that any individual that has a conviction for animal cruelty or has been banned from owning dogs or conducting a business related to dogs via a court order or administrative settlement will require an in person or phone interview before

further action can be taken on the application. An individual who has been convicted for felony **assault** or felony illegal drug possession within the last ten (10) years will also be required to undergo an in-person or phone interview before further action can be taken on the application. Those conducting the interview on behalf of the THA IGP Trial Helper Program will be trained in re HIPAA privacy laws and the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Please understand that the safety of the dogs and handlers is of paramount importance to us and any exercising of due diligence is not personal, but rather, will be conducted in accordance to strict documented procedural guidelines.

Description of **Performance** **Requirements** of an IGP Trial Helper (Please Note the Point Allocations)

Protection Exercises

Exercises	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
Search for the Helper	5	5	10
Hold and Bark	15	15	15
Prevention of Attempted Escape	20	15	10
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	30	20	15
Back transport	-	5	5
Attack on the dog out of the back transport	-	-	15
Attack on the dog out of motion	30	20	15
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	-	20	15
Total Score	100	100	100

Helper Pre-**Trial** Responsibilities Vis a Vis the Phase C JUDGE

The helper shall walk the field with the protection judge to ensure that the helper understands what the particular judge requires. The helper works for the judge and no one else. This cannot be

overemphasized.

The helper should take note of the line from where the handler will stand for the callout as (s)he goes to the basic position to further allow the judge to assess the guarding in the blind.

The helper should take note of the arc spray- painted on the trial field within which the dog will be placed for the escape and where (s)he will position him or herself for the escape which is usually marked by an x.

Finally, the helper must know the point to which (s)he must run during the escape since if the dog does not engage by the time the helper reaches that line, protection is terminated. For dogs that do properly engage, that line is also important since that is where the helper

stops and ideally, positions the dog so the dog's back is to the handler (the judge knows where you will stop so will adjust accordingly).

Note that some judges will instruct the helper to effectuate the defense against an attack from the guarding phase upon the verbal command of the judge; while other judges will instruct the helper to count till 5 Mississippi after the dog releases the sleeve and then attack. Some judges may even require the helper to look at the judge to see the visual instruction to effectuate the defense against an attack from the guarding phase. In answer to the question *which is correct?*, the answer is “what **that** judge tells you on that particular day for that particular trial is correct.”

Similarly, some judges will instruct the helper when to cease the drive, while others will merely instruct the helper to drive the dog for about 8 more “steps” after the padded stick is administered for the second time to determine if the out is due to the command rather than the pressure of the padded stick, which is faulty and perhaps grounds for termination of the protection routine.

The helper must follow the particular judge’s directions in **all** aspects and be prepared for all possible scenarios. Stating that “last time the judge let me decide when to initiate the attack” is an inappropriate comment and could be construed as a sign of disrespect to the judge. A very learned judge I discussed this with stated that the slight deviances

in judges' preferences leads to a more diverse gene pool since not every GSD will be evaluated the same by every judge. For our sport, while we strive for consistency and uniformity, since there is more than one judge in this world (and we thank the heavens for that), there will be variations so we must deal with it.

Be that as it may, the helper is obligated to ask any questions of the judge if (s)he is unclear as to what is expected.

The IGP 2 and 3 Front Half Helper Must walk the back transport pattern with the judge to ensure there is a 100% understanding of the requirements meaning where to walk and when to attack. The pattern and point of attack should be the same for all handlers to ensure fairness and consistency.

Please refer to your organization's score sheets (protection phase) to envision what you will be doing on the field and when. Watch as many protection routines as you can for all levels, IGP 1-3.

IGP -1 (First 20 Points) The helper shall, upon the direction of the judge, go into the blind and position him or herself in a manner which will make it extremely difficult for him or her to be pushed backward or to the floor if the dog comes in and jumps on the sleeve or chest. The helper, in terms of posture, must be upright and should NOT be hunch-backed or leaning forward so as to present a threat to the dog. The handler should emit an essence of strong and confident neutrality. The helper, with knees slightly bent, but standing upright, will place the

stick against the leg to avoid it as being a visual stimuli. The sleeve shall be placed so the wrist grip of the sleeve is in front of the groin area or at a 45 degree angle so the bite bar is visible. Again, the judge will state his or her preference for this.

Standing in the blind with the outside of the sleeve exposed is “decoy help” designed to discourage the dog from “being dirty” in the blind and is not allowed.

When the dog comes in the blind, the helper will remain motionless and fix his or her eyes just above the dog’s forehead; between and “through” the ears. The helper shall not make eye contact with the dog as the dog’s ability to sustain intense barking due to the command rather than stimuli is being tested

The helper **MUST** remain motionless throughout the bark and hold and call out to basic position by the handler or the dog is fussed out to the basic marked position by the IPG 1 handler.

If the dog does not come into the blind, obviously, this is not a training situation, so the helper may **not** make any attraction. The only time a helper may leave this position, other than being called out of the blind by the handler, is if the judge has given instructions to do so to remedy an unexpected, emergency situation.

When the dog is called out and goes to the basic position; or when the handler picks up the dog for IGP 1 only, the helper shall remain motionless until the handler issues the “step out of the blind” request.

Upon hearing this request, the helper shall walk slowly but deliberately to the x, **keeping the stick pressed against the helper pant leg (so when the stick is presented it is an actual threat rather than a forewarned object)** and keeping the sleeve motionless, pressed to the side in preparation for the escape. (All of the comments, thus far, constitute 20 Points of the “Blind Search [5 points] and Hold and Bark [15 points].”).

The Next 20 Points –The Escape -Upon hearing or seeing the command from the judge, the helper will run towards the marked spot. The sleeve can (but need not be) be moved in a pumping motion for the initial and next one to two steps but after that, the helper must present a clear “sleeve target” at an approximate 45

degree angle three to five inches from the helper's rib cage. Upon impact, the helper can lock his or her elbow into the stomach /ribcage area to softly absorb the impact and use it as momentum to keep on running. Thereafter, the sleeve arm should remain motionless but taut, while the stick hand effectuates motion as one normally does while sprinting or running.

Upon seeing the marked spot, the helper will plant a foot, and pivot to lock his or her body while keeping the sleeve taught at a 45 degree angle for the out. The stick shall be pressed against the helper pant leg to be concealed in preparation for the "attack and stick threat" to come. (To repeat, this component of the protection routine comprises 20 points of the protection routine).

The Next 30 Points Helper effectuates the attack out of the guarding phase upon the dog by simultaneously raising the stick in a threatening motion and moving the sleeve and body towards the dog. The sleeve is moved forward but not raised as that would be considered a “prey movement.” Once the dog engages, the helper drives the dog for three skips or paces ¹ and on the fourth, administers the first of two stick hits. The helper then continues to drive the dog and administers the second stick hit on the eighth step. THEREAFTER, the helper continues for another four steps to ensure that the dog outs on the command of the handler and not due to the pressure of the stick hit. The helper shall “lock up” with balanced authority and, at his or her discretion, signal the end of the drives by

faking another stick hit and locking up, or merely locking up. The helper shall then remain motionless and either look above and beyond the dog (through the ears); at the dog; or at the judge, depending upon the instructions of the particular judge. The handler will then approach the dog; go to basic position and issue the “sit” command whereupon the dog is expected to stop barking or if the dog employs a silent guard, be ready to fuss away. The handler will then, upon the direction of the judge, fuss down field, while the helper remains in position, standing still. (To repeat, this aspect of the exercises constitutes 30 points of the protection routine).

The handler will fuss down field and turn towards the helper upon the direction of

the judge. The handler may restrain the dog by the collar and issue a sit command in preparation for the Attack on the Dog Out of Motion (aka “Long Bite”). **Please note that due to the 2019 Rules Changes, the helper does NOT return to the hot blind and walk from that hot blind to the center of the field, with a turn down field. Rather, due to these rules changes, the helper stays where (she) is, taking direction from the protection judge.**

The Final 30 Points of the Protection Routine for IGP 1 Upon instruction from the judge, the handler will command the dog, who should be in a sit position, to engage the helper who will be trotting towards the handler and dog.

The helper shall present the sleeve at a 45 degree angle, above chest height but not

above the top of his or her head, while trotting towards the dog. The helper shall, to test temperament and conviction, shout and wave the padded stick menacingly. The helper shall present the sleeve at a 45 degree angle, across his or her body, and maintain a distance of at least three inches from his or her body to prevent “jamming” the dog. The helper shall remain straight, centered and balanced and shall not “cheat” or favor a side as the dog is in flight. Upon impact, the helper, depending on the angle the dog chooses to take, take the dog left or right (aka sleeve side or stick side) and as soon as practicable, place the dog on the ground “safely”. Unnecessary swinging of the dog may cause injury to the dog and moreover, arguably, relieves pressure of the exercise, something the sport tries to

mitigate. Once the dog is placed safely on the ground, the helper shall immediately drive the dog 8 to 9 paces with the padded stick being waved menacingly, and then lock up, preferably with the dog's back to the handler. The dog will then be commanded to release and the handler may effectuate a slight delay to demonstrate transition. It is important that the helper's lock up be firm/strong and that the stick be at the helper's side pant leg rather than flailing or visible. Allowing the stick to flail or be present, can be grounds for criticism on the part of the handler and perhaps, the judge.

Once the dog outs, the helper must remain motionless until the handler comes to the basic position. Once the handler reaches the basic position, the

handler will utter the sit command. The dog that effectuates an active guard(barking) should then stop while the dog that actuates a silent guard, shall prepare him or herself for the side transport. HELPERS MUST REMEMBER THAT THE HANDLER IS REQUIRED TO TAKE THE STICK WHILE EITHER FACING THE HELPER OR AFTER WHEN THE DOG SITS AND IS BETWEEN THE HANDLER AND HELPER. IN OTHER WORDS, THE DISARM MUST BE MADE WHEN THE HANDLER IS STATIONARY AND NOT MOVING. TAKING THE STICK FROM THE HELPER WHILE THE HANDLER AND DOG IS A POINT DEDUCTION!! Please be cognizant of this and react to the handler's request when to surrender the stick. As the handler heels away or moves the dog between him or herself and you,

the helper, may prepare your sleeve and stock to be in a “neutral” 45 degree position so the sleeve is not a “enticing” and the stick is not seen as a threat and rather, is ready to be surrendered. Note that this aspect meaning the side transport is not expressly mentioned on the IGP score sheet, etc., but it is a very important aspect of the routine and competitors have been disqualified or the routine terminated for failing to perform it properly. For the voracious competitor, every point counts so please do not put yourself in a position to be blamed. (This component of the protection routine constitutes the final 30 points).

Some helpers, once escorted to the judge, turn slightly towards the canine and handler team while others, remain facing

forward towards the judge, until the team heels away. Please consult with the protection judge in re his or her preference regarding this.

Once the handler and canine report out, the helper will remain with the judge and go to any location directed by the judge. It is possible that while the handler and canine move towards the location to be critiqued, the helper will be told to move or to go to the “stadium tracks” or closer to the fence. The helper will return to the hot blind for the next dog upon the instruction of the protection judge.

IGP 2: [The First 5 Points] The helper shall, upon the direction of the judge, go into the blind and position him or herself in a manner which will make it extremely difficult for him or her to be pushed

backward or to the floor if the dog comes in and jumps on the sleeve or chest. The helper, in terms of posture, must be upright and should NOT be hunch-backed or leaning forward so as to present a threat to the dog. The handler should emit an essence of strong and confident neutrality. The helper, with knees slightly bent, but standing upright, will place the stick against the leg to avoid it as being a visual stimuli. The sleeve shall be placed so the wrist grip of the sleeve is in front of the groin area or at a 45 degree angle so the bite bar is visible. Again, the judge will state his or her preference for this. Standing in the blind with the outside of the sleeve exposed is “decoy help” designed to avoid “being dirty” in the blind and is not allowed.

[The Next 15 Points] When the dog comes in the blind, the helper will remain motionless and fix his or her eyes just above the dog's forehead; between and "through" the ears. The helper shall not make eye contact with the dog as the dog's ability to sustain intense barking due to the command rather than stimuli is being tested

The helper MUST remain motionless throughout the bark and hold and call out to basic position by the handler.

If the dog does not come into the blind, obviously, this is not training, so the helper may not make any attraction. The only time a helper may leave this position, other than being called out of the blind by the handler, is if the judge has given instructions to do so to remedy an

unexpected, emergency situation.

When the dog is called out and goes to the basic position; the helper shall remain motionless until the handler issues the “step out of the blind” request.

Upon hearing this request, the helper shall walk slowly but deliberately to the x, keeping the stick pressed against the helper pant leg and keeping the sleeve motionless, pressed to the side in preparation for the escape.

[\[The Next 15 Points\]](#) Upon hearing or seeing the command from the judge, the helper will run towards the marked spot (aka “the escape”). The sleeve can (but need not be) be moved in a pumping motion for the initial and next one to two steps but after that, the helper must present a clear “sleeve target” at an

approximate 45 degree angle three to five inches from the helper's rib cage. Upon impact, the helper can lock his or her elbow near the stomach /ribcage area to softly absorb the impact and use it as momentum to keep on running.

Thereafter, the sleeve arm should remain motionless but taut, while the stick hand effectuates motion as one normally does while sprinting or running.

Upon seeing the marked spot, the helper will plant a foot, and pivot to lock his or her body while keeping the sleeve taught at a 45 degree angle for the out. The stick shall be pressed against the helper pant leg to be concealed in preparation for the "attack and stick threat" to come.

The Helper effectuates the attack out of the guarding phase upon the dog by

simultaneously raising the stick in a threatening motion and

moving the sleeve and then body towards the dog. The sleeve is moved forward but not raised as that would be considered a “prey movement.” Once the dog engages, the helper drives the dog for three skips or paces and on the fourth, administers the first of two stick hits. The helper then continues to drive the dog and administers the second stick hit on the fourth step. THEREAFTER, the helper continues for another four steps to ensure that the dog outs on the command of the handler and not due to the pressure of the stick hit. The helper shall “lock up” with balanced authority and, at his or her discretion, signal the end of the drives by faking another stick hit and locking up, or

merely locking up. The helper shall then remain motionless and either look above and beyond the dog (through the ears); at the dog; or at the judge, depending upon the instructions of the particular judge. The handler will then approach the dog; go to basic position and issue the “sit” command whereupon the dog is expected to stop barking or if the dog employs a silent guard, be ready for the back transport.

[\[The Next 5 Points\]](#) The handler will then, state “Turn Around and Move Out” to signal that the back transport will commence. The helper should turn slowly but deliberately to either his or her left or right to start walking the back transport, in a pattern dictated by the judge pre-trial (before the trial). At this time, the helper

will walk turn its back to the dog and walk out approximately 8 steps then halt. The handler will then order the move and “Transport” command.

The helper will continue to walk with stick concealed in the front help upward from near the waist while the sleeve is in a 45 degree angle hidden from the dog’s sight.

The back transport will be completed at a spot determined by the judge, the helper will stop. The handler-canine team will escort the helper to the judge and upon instruction of the judge fuss up field. The helper, during this time, will remain in the area, quietly, and when told, create a threat (not a prey attraction) for the long grip. **The long grip and reattack are worth 40 points in the IGP 2.**

The judge will have the handler release the dog. The dog will come at the helper and as the dog is running towards him or her, the helper will waive the stick menacingly and yell (2x), while still running.

The helper and dog will meet and the dog will engage the sleeve that is presented at a 45 degree angle, above the chest line, 3 to 6 inches from the chest. The helper will remain square and balanced and not cheat to either side, lest a “jam” occur. The helper will then take the dog sleeve or stick side, depending on the motion of the dog (some people believe the skillful helper must always take the dog sleeve side but some disagree), and after the smooth “catch,” place the dog on the ground as soon as possible. Again,

spinning the dog for dramatic effect can not only cause injury but also reduces the pressure phase. The goal is to get the dog safely to the ground as soon as possible. Sometimes, the dog will hit with such impact that some spinning is entirely NECESSARY to ensure the safety of both the dog and the helper.

Once the dog is placed safely on the ground, the helper will drive the dog for 12 paces and then lock up. For the IGP 2 the new rules states that there IS a re-attack (attack out of guarding), so upon the out/release and guarding, the helper will, either at his or her discretion as directed by the judge or upon the verbal or visual cue of the judge, attack the dog by moving the stick up and sleeve forward (but not up as that is a prey bite)

towards the dog. The dog should then engage and be driven for a total of at least nine steps but no padded stick hits

The judge will then direct the handler who is down field to utter the out command. The handler has up to three commands to effectuate the out. Once the dog outs, the judge will release the handler to go to the basic position and pick up the dog. Thus, the handler will approach the dog, go to the basic position and issue the sit command. The dog will become silent if effectuating an active guard or sit and prepare for the next command if employing a silent guard.

The handler will then direct the helper to step back or to give up the stick.

Thereafter the handler will move the canine for the side transport.

The side transport is not specifically mentioned in the judge's sheet but it is a crucial component of the protection routine. Ostensibly it is part of the point allocation of the long bite. It is the handler's job to position the dog between the handler and the helper and for the dog to remain attentive (vigilant) as the handler directs the helper towards the judge. Once the handler, helper and dog reach the judge, the handler will execute the halt command so both dog and helper stop. There, the handler will present the stick to the judge and state, IGP Protection 2 Part 2 completed and wait to be dismissed. The helper shall either stand straight or as some like to do slowly face the dog and handler. Please consult with the judge in re his or her preference. The judge will instruct the handler to fuss

away and leash the dog and go to a designated point to receive the critique. At this point, the judge will direct the helper to slowly walk off the field to near the hot blind to await the next handler and canine team. Once the critique is completed, the judge will direct the helper into the blind for the next team. During this critique, helpers should take advantage and rest and perhaps, intake fluids, etc.

The IGP 3

The routine for the IGP 3 is identical to the IGP 2 except that **there is an attack out of the back transport which is worth 15 points**. Again, while the ensuing out and side transport are not mentioned on the scoresheet, this is part of the attack out of the back transport section.

Please note that the helper for the back part, after the second side transport, goes to the hot blind and upon the direction of the judge, runs to the center of the field for the long grip. The catch, re-attack and side transport are the same as in IGP 2 except that after the long-bite and out, the re-attack involves stick hits so there is driving of at least 8 steps, stick, 8 steps, stick 8 steps halt. Again, there is movement after the stick hit (even the second one) so the judge can evaluate the reaction to the pressure of it. **This long bite and reattack are worth 15 points, including the final side transport for the IGP 3.**

The Skip Drive versus the Running Drive

Some of the

top competitors from the U.S. have stated

that our dogs are not used to the movements or pressure they experience in Europe. Personally, I never thought that to be the case but I am certainly not as observant as they are. Also and fortunately, we have some great helpers from Europe who visit with us or have moved to the U.S.

This is a topic which every helper should be aware of, especially those who aspire to work high-level trials or help handlers who want to get to the high level trials.

FACULTY EVALUATION SHEET

100 Points is Optimal

Please evaluate level 1 aspiring helpers based on the IGP 1 protection routine exercise but please do not be stringent and be generous with your grading.

Please judge level 2/3 aspirants by an IGP 2 Routine.

Please judge level 3/4 and 5 aspirants by a IGP 3, IGP 2 and IGP 1 routine(s). Please be strict and look at fitness, power, ability to take direction and ability to articulate why the helper is necessary. Here is a scoresheet you can use towards that end:

Protection Exercises

Exercises	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
Search for the Helper	5	5	10
Hold and Bark	15	15	15
Prevention of Attempted Escape	20	15	10
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	30	20	15
Back transport	-	5	5
Attack on the dog out of the back transport	-	-	15
Attack on the dog out of motion	30	20	15
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	-	20	15
Total Score	100	100	100

Faculty Key Points

- The helper works for the judge
- During a trial, the helper must remain consistent and can NEVER go into training mode
- The helper can deviate in order to help a judge or trial secretary etc if the dog mistakes the judge or trial secretary for the decoy, etc
- The helper should be able to articulate to a novice bystander

that the padded stick is not dangerous and a tool to test temperament. It (the padded stick) does not hurt and is a measure of the domesticity of the canine... the ability of the canine to react to a stimulus and to become neutral when not in the working environment.. the dog that is skittish of the stick may not like a broom being used to clean sidewalks and thus, won't be bred...

Helper Evaluation Questions Written Test)

1. For the trial and during the trial, the helper works under the direction of:
 - a) the handler
 - b) the richtar (trial chair)
 - c) the host club
 - d) the protection judge

2. At a national event, for most organizations, to ensure fairness and randomness, the helpers are selected and assigned by:
 - a) the competitors tabulate votes
 - b) the host club
 - c) the helpers discuss and decide
 - d) a learned committee that knows everything and what should be done to ensure “things go right”

e) the protection judge

3. The responsible helper knows

- a) the IGP 1 routine only
- b) the IGP2 routine only
- c) the IGP 3 routine only since that is the highest level
- d) all of the routines since you never know what the trial will require

4. In IGP 1 and IGP 2, usually how many helpers are utilized

- a) 7
- b) 1 for each degree meaning one for IGP 1 and one for IGP 2
- c) it depends on the judge

5. A sleeve cover's quality is

- a) not important....
 - b) Important since you don't want a sleeve that has loops catching on to a canine
 - c) An excuse for not attaining a v score
 - d) Does not matter
6. If during a trial the dog does not come into the blind, what do you do
- a) we must promote the sport so sneeze or say "shoo" or make some sort of attraction like banging the stick against the blind
 - b) Do nothing, you must remain neutral as that is part of the test
 - c) Ask the judge to allow a do-over

and make some sort of excuse

d) Run out of the blind and back in

7. Physical fitness is not important since the dog must face what it faces and not everyone is in shape “on the street”

a) True

b) False

8. For the protection phase, the maximum amount of the score attainable is:

a) 100 for IGP 3, 60 for IGP 2 and 25 for IGP 1

b) 100 for IGP 3, 50 for IGP 2 and 25 for IGP 1

c) 100 for IGP 1 100 for IGP2 and 100

for IGP 3

9. What do you do if the dog mistakes the judge for the helper during the long bite
 - a) Nothing. It is a great test
 - b) Make attraction as the safety of others is paramount. Get that dog coming at you, the helper.
 - c) Nothing as if the judge gets scared then he or she should not be a judge
 - d) Nothing since we need to ensure the protection test is the protection test
10. What footwear do most helpers utilize:
 - a) Tennis shoes so as to not disturb the turf

- b) Muck Boots
- c) Cleats but plastic tip not metal
- d) Anything is fine.

Bonus Question

A Helper's demeanor should be (is best characterized as)

- a) to look at the dog's face and eyes and scowl
- b) to look strange to try to unnerve the dog
- c) what the judge says since the judge may direct you to look up and not engage the dog
- d) to look as scared as you can to build confidence in the dog

ANSWER KEY

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4. In IGP 1 and IGP 2, usually how many helpers are utilized

a. 7

b. 1 for each degree meaning one for IGP 1 and one for IGP 2

c. it depends on the judge

d. one per dog so no one gets tired

5. A sleeve cover's quality is
- a. not important....
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 - c. An excuse for not attaining a v score
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characterized as)

- e) to look at the dog's face and eyes and scowl
- f) to look strange to try to unnerve the dog
- g) what the judge says since the judge may direct you to look up and not engage the dog
- h) to look as scared as you can to build confidence in the dog

Protection Exercises

Exercises	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
Search for the Helper	5 5	5	10 10
Hold and Bark	15 10	15	15 15
Prevention of Attempted Escape	20 18	15	10 8
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	30 25	20	15 12
Back transport	-	5	5 5
Attack on the dog out of the back transport	-	-	15 12
Attack on the dog out of motion	30 30	20	15 15
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	-	20	15 15
Total Score	100 85	100	100 92

Classifications

Designation	Description	Requirement
Faculty (5 Stars)	Can lead seminars and certifications and classify helpers at his or her discretion upon a satisfactory background check	50 or more dogs worked at IGP trials with at least 5 Excellent Ratings or 1 or More National Events Rated As Excellent or 3 Regional Events. This is a suggested parameter.
4 Star	Deemed by Two Distinct Faculty Members to possess the character and abilities to perform IGP 3 protection work at the National Championship level. Faculty Members must keep in mind that between 30 and 100 dogs are worked at the Championship level.	Perform and be graded on an IGP 1 and IGP 3 routine within the same review session. Recertification is required every 4 th year. Must be rated excellent for both routines. Should get a 90 or above average for the IGP 1 and IGP 3 routines.
3 Star	Deemed by One Faculty Member to possess the ability to work a Regional Trial.	Same testing and recertification as 4 star. Just a bit more to go before attaining 4 start. Must be rated very good for both routines. If not excellent, then 3 Star applies. Should get 85 to

		90 average..
2 Star	Deemed by a Faculty Member to be able to perform a Club Trial at the IGP 1,2 and 3 Level.	Must perform an IGP 1 and IGP 3 routine and receive a good rating. Should get above 80 on the IGP 1, preferably 90..
1 Star	The future of our dog sport.	No requirement. Just needs experience.