



## IGP TRIAL HELPER MANUAL

## **Mission Statement:**

**We seek to provide a platform which is extremely friendly and unintimidating for beginners who wish to learn trial helper work and to help those who already have experience with trial helper work improve their skills to their maximum potential. We seek to co-exist and work with existing Helper Programs. We 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”) constitutes the Working German Shepherd Dog Promotion Association’s ( WGSDPA) official document pertaining to IGP **Trial** Helper Work and has been compiled to support the WGSDPA **Trial Helper** Program. 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 WGSDPA 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. We understand that IGP judges may, for whatever reason be bound by such constraints –meaning being licensed with and by only one organization – but we see no benefits in effectuating such demarcating boundaries here. Also, we understand that everyone is busy and there are no teaching 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 WGSDPA Training Helper Program, although some Faculty Members have faculty status in both programs.

Also, the AWDF Helper Committee is a distinct committee that chooses the helpers for the annual AWDF Championship. These programs are demarcated from that committee, but again, some committee members may comprise the Faculty of one or both programs.

### **Non-Discriminatory Policy**

All Faculty Members (aka IGP Trial Teaching Helpers) and All 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.

### **Ethics Policy**

We are cognizant of the reality that many helpers earn some portion of their living through helper work. Time spent as an WGSDPA IGP Trial Teaching Helper must be exclusive and no-client – trainer relationship can co-exist during, for example, an WGSDPA IGP Trial Helper Seminar that the WGSDPA IGP Trial Teaching Helper is presiding over. Similarly, and especially for WGSDPA 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. 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 WGSDPA 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 my dog like \_\_\_\_\_.”

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!

WGSDPA IGP 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.

WGSDPA 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 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 quest for fairness. Helpers can use their exalted position to clarify confusion regarding the use of the padded stick. 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 used to determine temperament and breeding suitability (whether to include the dog in a breeding program). Remember in Germany, a minimum of a Schutzhund 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 concept to those wary of **our** sport who would have us be prevented from enjoying and utilizing it.

## **Topics That Are Covered and Not Covered**

Trial Helper “Comportment” 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 from Teaching Trial Helper (aka 5 Star) to 4 Star (Highest), 3 Star (Mid-Range), 2 Star (Proficient) to entry level, 1 Star. Please note that the Working German Shepherd Dog Promotion Association **Training** Helper Program is a distinct program with different faculty and requirements, although and again, some individuals may be active in both entities.

## **Classifications**

Designation	Description	Requirement	Approval Process
Trial TEACHING Helper 5 Star	Authorized to teach IGP trial helper work at WGSDPA Trial Helper Work Seminars and Classify Helpers at His or Her	50 or More Dogs Worked at IGP Trials With An Excellent Rating or 1 + National or World Event Rated at Excellent or 3 Regional Events	UNANIMOUS Approval of the Co Directors of the WGSDPA IGP Trial Helper Program. Note that an individual may possess /fulfill all

	Discretion	Rated at Excellent or Approval by the Trial Helper Program Co-Directors + The Passing of the Written Exam. Must teach at an WGSDPA or other Helper Seminar at least one time every four years. Student success can play a major factor in acceptance as a Trial Teaching Helper.	of the Requirements for Trial TEACHING Helper but may be denied the classification at the sole and exclusive discretion of the Co Directors. Any denial must be set forth in writing.
4 Star	Deemed by 2 Trial Teaching Helpers* to possess the ability, in terms of physical capacity and knowledge, to perform IGP 3 protection work, under the direction of a judge, at <b>National Level</b> IGP trial. The Trial Teaching Helpers will keep in mind that between 30 to 100 dogs may be worked over the trial weekend.	Must perform an IGP 1 and 3 Routine under the supervision of 1 IGP Trial Teaching Helper (in person) and 1 IGP Trial Teaching Helper (via Video Review) and receive a Very Good or Excellent Rating. Must pass the Written Examination. Must recertify every 4 <sup>th</sup> year. Must have worked at least one National Or International Event or 5 Regional Events with a Rating of Excellent.	Signature of one of the Co-Chairs. No need for unanimity.
3 Star	Deemed by 1 Trial Teaching Helper to possess the ability, in terms of physical capacity	Must perform an IGP 1 and 3 Routine under the supervision of 1 IGP Trial Teaching	Signature of one of the Co-Chairs. No need for unanimity.



	and knowledge, to perform IGP 3 protection work, under the direction of a judge, at an IGP Regional or Club trial. The IGP Trial Teaching Helper will keep in mind that the helper may be required to work approximately 25+/- dogs over the trial weekend.	Helper and receive a Very Good or Excellent Rating. Must pass the Written Examination. Must recertify every 4 <sup>th</sup> year. Must have worked at least five (5) club trials with a rating of Very Good or Above for at least 3 and no Unsatisfactory Ratings at all Within the five (5) trials.	
2 Star	Deemed by 1 IGP Trial Teaching Helper to possess the physical capacity and knowledge to work a local IGP trial up to IPG 2 under the direction of a judge.	Must perform an IGP 1 and 2 Routine under the supervision of 1 IGP Trial Teaching Helper and receive a Very Good or Excellent Rating. Must pass the Written Examination. Must recertify every 4 <sup>th</sup> year.	Signature of one of the Co-Chairs. No need for unanimity.
1 Star	The future of our dog sport, we welcome the individual with limited or no experience who seeks to learn and become an IGP Trial Helper in the future.	Encouraged to attend as many helper seminars as possible. Encouraged to join a reputable club and learn under the Club Helper.	Signature of one of the Co-Chairs. No need for unanimity.

## **Entry Into the WGSDPA IGP Trial Helper Program**

An WGSDPA IGP Trial Helper Book is required to participate in the program, as is a completed application and processing fee of \$10.00 which will cover the cost of the Helper Book and Postage. **Membership within an AWDF breed or sport club, including an affiliation through this WGSDPA, is required.**

Please note that any individual that has a conviction for animal cruelty or has been banned from keeping 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 AWDG 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 Activities

The helper shall walk the field with the protection judge to ensure that the helper understands what the particular judge requires.

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 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 5 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. 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.

**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 IGP 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 <sup>1</sup> 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

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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 dqd 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 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 <sup>2</sup> 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). The prudent handler will count the helper's steps and on the fourth step commence the back transport by indicating "Transport" to the canine.

The helper will continue to walk with stick concealed in the front hand held upward from near the waist while the sleeve is in a 45 degree angle with the bite bar ready to be presented cleanly.

Upon the direction of the judge or at a spot predetermined by the judge so the dog is not alerted by the judge's voice or signal, the helper will turn sleeve side first and run towards the dog with the sleeve presented 3 to 5 inches from the chest to enable a cushion for the impact, with stick raised. The helper shall NOT make a whipping noise with the stick nor yell any type of warning. The suddenness of the attack is vital to this exercise in terms of temperament and training testing.

The canine is expected to engage the helper and the helper will take the dog sleeve or stick side, depending on the angle and drive the dog for 12 paces with the stick being waved menacingly but no stick contact implemented. Thereafter, the helper will plant his or her feet and lock up strong, with the sleeve at a 45 degree angle at the bottom of the chest area. The dog's back should be facing the handler so the dog cannot see the handler and be influenced by his or her presence.

At this point, the dog will out and engage in a silent guard or active guard (barking) or for some, a mixture, usually meaning a silent guard followed by some barking. The handler will upon the direction of the judge, come up to the dog in basic position and command sit.

The handler will then instruct the handler as to the disarm. Some handlers ask for the helper to step back. While others fuss the dog away and to the side of the helper or straight to the side of the helper via the "French Flip." Either before or after, while in a stationary position, the handler should disarm the helper, meaning take the stick. Most handlers will state "stick."

The handler will then ask the helper to move out for the side transport to the judge. Upon reaching the judge, the handler will state "halt," and hand the stick to the judge while stating that protection Part 1 has been completed.

Note that some dogs herd the helper so you may want to engage in a drag one foot forward motion. If you do this, however, you must be consistent and do so for every dog that herds you.

The handler and canine will, upon the direction of the judge, fuss up field for the attack out of motion (aka long bite). As the handler and canine move up field the helper will move quietly but directly into the hot blind (unless another helper will do the long bite which is not common for IGP 2). Once the handler and canine are at center field and in basic position, the judge will direct the helper to leave the hot blind and run to the center of the field, and then turn at that mid field point towards the handler and dog. At a certain point, perhaps after the helper has taken 10 steps, 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, 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 3 steps followed by the first stick hit, and then another 3 steps followed by the second stick hit. Then the helper must drive the dog another 3 to 4 steps to ensure the out is due to the handler's command and not the stick hit.

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 utter 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 etc but it is a crucial component of the protection routine. Ostensibly it is part of the \_\_\_ points 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

ther vigiloant 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 t oa designated point to receive the critique. At this point, the judge will direct the helper to slowly walk of 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