

# IPCA TRACKING CERTIFICATION

## EVALUATION CRITERIA:

- A. The track will be a single-blind assessment.
- B. The distance and age of the track are approximative and may vary, as the track layer might encounter unforeseen conditions.
- C. The K-9 team must find the track layer or the article at the end of the track within the time limit. However, this time limit can be extended at the evaluator's discretion (for example if the track is longer than planned or for whatever unforeseen circumstances).
- D. Finds based on a dog working in air scent patterns (area search) are not valid and will result in a failure.
- E. The evaluator has the final decision on passing or failing the K-9 team.
- F. Any disrespectful behavior towards the evaluator or against animal welfare will result in the disqualification of the K-9 team.
- G. In case of failure, the K-9 team can repeat the certification as often as they want. It will be up to the evaluator if that can occur on the same day or if the team needs remedial training before they attempt to certify again.
- H. The IPCA executive board will determine the certifying officials approved to administer the tracking certification.

- I. The tracking certification will be valid for one (1) year from the date of certification.

## **TRACKING CERTIFICATION:**

### Scent evidence collection and use.

- A. The scent articles will be provided by the track layer in a jar or any other suitable container previously before he/she lays the track.
- B. The scent articles might either be placed directly at the start of the track, the end of the track, or left in the care of the expert witness. There will be at least two (2) but no more than three (3) scent articles on the track. The K-9 must find all the scent articles on the track.

### Certification:

- A. The track will be 750-1000 feet with two turns.
- B. The age of the track will be at least 30 minutes old.
- C. The track will start on soft surfaces (woods, fields) and must have at least one surface change (gravel, concrete, asphalt, etc).
- D. 15-minute time limit for successful track completion.