



### **Gold Award - Notes of guidance**

1. **Controlled walk with distractions:** On lead the dog should negotiate a course that includes a number of distractions such as, gateways, motor vehicles, bicycles or scooters being ridden, food, and other dogs. It should take up the sit and lying down positions when instructed to. The dog should remain under close control of the handler throughout.
2. **Controlled walk off lead:** Off lead the dog should negotiate a course of between 50 and 80 metres, including right, left and about turns. The dog should take up the sit and lying down positions when instructed to. This will be performed at slow, normal and fast pace. Throughout the course the dog should stay with the handler. Rewards, lures and other encouragement can be used.
3. **Recall to heel:** The dog should be released from the lead in an open area. When the dog is at least 10 metres away the handler will recall the dog into heel and continue walking at heel for a further 10 paces
4. **Recall from distractions:** The dog should be off lead in an area with other dogs also off lead. On command of the handler the dog will return to them.
5. **Long stay:** The dog should, following command take up the sit, stand or lying down position and remain in position for 2 minutes. During the two minutes the handler will go out of sight of the dog for a period of 30 seconds.
6. **Stopping the dog:** The handler will leave the dog in a controlled position and move to a distance of between 15 and 30 metres. They will then recall the dog and while it is returning command it to stop. The dog is required to stop within a short distance and take up a controlled position as commanded.
7. **Send to bed:** The handler will send the dog to its "bed" from a distance of at least 10 meters. This exercise will be conducted in 3 different locations to evidence that the dog will go to bed regardless of where it is located. Any suitable bed, towel, carpet or cloth can be used as a "bed".
8. **Controlled separation.** The dog should be secured in a safe area while the handler leaves the area for 2-3 minutes. The dog should be comfortable being left and not show undue signs of distress.
9. **Control with food:** The handler will place food in a bowl in front of the dog. The dog will wait until it is commanded to eat before doing so.
10. **Agility:** Off lead the dog will successfully negotiate a range of suitable agility equipment as decided by the examiner. The dog must stay under the control of the handler throughout and not deviate from the course.