

DTA Novice Athlete list of behaviours

	Name	Description and assessment criteria
1	Differentiate hind paws	Dog gives or lifts left or right hind paw on verbal cue alone irrespective which hand is offered by the handler. Demonstrate in random order with both hind paws - at least twice with each of the hind paws.
2	2 hind paws on a raised object	On cue the dog puts both of the hind paws onto a raised object behind it. Dog steps backwards for a step or two to position the paws
3	Get inside the box	Dog hops in or steps into a box with 4 sides at least the height of dog's elbow. The box length needs to be smaller than the dog's body length. All 4 paws of the dog need to be in the box for minimum of 3 seconds.
4	Front paws in	On cue dog puts only front two paws into a box and keeps the paws there for at least 3 seconds or until released. The handler must not simply lure the dog.
5	Hind paws in step forward	On cue dog steps through a box and stops when only the hind two paws remain in the box and keeps the paws there for at least 3 seconds or until released. The handler must not simply lure the dog.
6	Hind paws in step backwards	On cue the dog steps backwards with its hind legs and puts the hind two paws inside of a box. The height of the box should be appropriate for the dog. The hind paws should remain there for at least 3 seconds or until released. The handler must not simply lure the dog.
7	Spin (both directions)	Dog spins around itself in a full circle in both directions
8	Crawl	Dog crawls on belly for 5 strides
9	High 10	Dog raises both front paws and touches the vertically held handler's hands in front of it, resembling high 10. Perform twice
10	Stand tall	Dog stands tall on its back legs for at least 3 seconds
11	Play football	On cue dog rolls a football or another ball with either the nose or paw(s). Repeat 3 times
12	Catch it	On cue dog gets ready and catches a thrown towards it toy. Repeat twice.
13	Back up on flat	Dog backs up for at least 3 dog body lengths on a flat surface
14	Hoop jump	Dog jumps through one hoop - once in each direction
15	Jump	Dog jumps over a raised stationary object. The handler needs to choose a safe object at safe for the dog height
16	Jump up	On cue dog jumps up on a spot 3 times. All 4 paws need to leave the ground.
17	Jump over leg	Dog jumps over handler's legs while handler is sitting or standing once in each direction
18	2 paws up on a vertical object	Dog put 2 front paws up on a vertical solid stationary object, such as wall and keeps the position for at least 3 seconds
19	Roll over clockwise	On cue dog performs a complete roll over in a clockwise direction. Repeat twice

	Name	Description and assessment criteria
20	Roll over anticlockwise	On cue dog performs a complete roll over in anticlockwise direction. Repeat twice
21	Hand signals novice	Dog performs 3 different behaviours on silent hand signals from the handler. The behaviours can be from any category.
22	Balance	Dog walks on a long raised object, plank or tree trunk which is narrower than dog's shoulder width for at least 5 steps. The handler should be ready to support the dog if required
23	Circle both ways	Dog performs several circles around the handler some are in clockwise direction and some are in anticlockwise direction. At least twice each way.
24	Jump over me	With handler on hands and knees, dog jumps of the handler's back. It's OK for dog's feet to touch the back or if dog jumps up and then down
25	On it	On command dog walks, jumps or hops on the object placing all 4 feet there and staying for at least 3 seconds
26	Crawl under	Dog crawls all the way through under a horizontal object which is lower than dog's shoulder height
27	Distance work novice	Dog performs 3 tricks at a distance of approximately 5m away from the handler. Dog can be either on a flat surface or a raised platform. Voice or hand commands or both are allowed. Any tricks are permitted
28	Jogging	Dog jogs sufficiently close to the handler on a loose lead without pulling stopping or running across the handler's path for approximately 25 m. Dog's pace matches that of the handler.
29	Simple frisbee catch	Dog is able to catch frisbee
30	Go up the stairs	On command the dog climbs to the top of the flight of stairs.
31	Shuffle	Dog places its front feet on a horizontal long object and shuffles sideways along the object on the back legs while keeping the front paws moving on the top of the object. The object can be vertical such as wall or lower such as bench. Demonstrate in both directions.
32	Back up onto a flat object with a different texture	Dog backs up for at least 3 dog body lengths onto a flat or slightly raised object with a different texture. Repeat with three objects.
33	Hind leg raise	On cue dog raises one of its back feet off the ground. Repeat twice
34	2 front paws on a raised object	On cue dog puts 2 front feet on a raised stationary object and stays there for at least 3 seconds. Repeat with 3 different objects
35	2 front paws on different objects	On cue dog puts each of the front feet on a separate raised off the ground object (could be pods, books, cushions etc). The objects can be the same or different. Dog stays in this position for 3 seconds.
36	Competitive heel	Dog walks with the handler at competitive style heel position maintaining eye contact with the handler and maintaining contact with handler's leg. Demonstrate for at least 10 steps with chase of direction
37	Horizontal hoop jump	Dog jumps into and out of the horizontally positioned hoop in a flowing movement. The hoop size should be appropriate for the dog. Repeat once in each direction
38	Swim	Dog willingly demonstrates swimming in the water for at least 5 dog body lengths. The dog's feet must not touch the bottom

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39	Splash	On cue the dog splashes the water with it's paws
40	Jump into the water	On cue the dog jumps into the water
41	Foot stall	On command dog stands on handler's feet with front two paws on the top of one foot and the back two paws on the top of the second foot.
42	Travel on skateboard	Dog places 4 feet on skateboard and stays there for at least 5 seconds while the handler pulls the skateboard forward.
43	Cavaletti forward	Dog steps over 5 cavaletti or similar raised planks (could be just wide ladder) slightly raised off the ground) walking forward while demonstrating full coordination of front and back paws
44	Double trick novice	Dog performs two tricks simultaneously from Foundation or novice lists of tricks for example holding an object while walking at heel etc.
45	Dog in a boat	Demonstrate that dog is happy to be in a boat moving steadily across flat water. This can be paddle boat, a boat or a large surf board
46	Handstand back paws to hands	Dog independently puts its back paws up on standing handler's legs and handler then picks up dog's hind paws into his/her hands. Demonstrate that dog can perform it independently and happy to stand in the position for at least 3 seconds
47	Spin in a hoop	Dog gets inside a hoop which is held parallel to the ground at above the ground level and performs several spins in either direction with all 4 paws remaining within the hoop
48	Lift front paw	On cue dog lifts and holds one of the front paws in the air without putting it down. Dog needs to hold independently the paw up off the floor for at least 3 seconds. Demonstrate twice
49	Jump over	On cue dog jumps over an object held in hander's hand. Repeat twice
50	Paddleboard	Dog enthusiastically gets onto a paddle board and rides on it with handler
51	Trampoline	On cue dog jumps on and bounces on a trampoline several times.
52	Crawl circle	On cue dog crawls a full circle around the handler. Handler must stand upright and not lure the dog.