

JGHV General Guidelines

The following is a complete and current list of adopted General Guidelines; they apply to all tests and performance awards, and to all member clubs.

Last Revision

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| • Handlers must have a hunting license | by General Meeting 1990 |
| • Test repeats | by General Meeting 1990 |
| • JGHV Test Regulations for Water Work Parts A & B | by General Meeting 2006 |
| • Protest Regulations | by General Meeting 2000 |
| • Admission to tests according to § 23 of JGHV By-laws | by General Meeting 2010 |
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| • Conflict of interest for Association Judges | by General Meeting 2010 |
| • Judging engagements by Association Judges | by General Meeting 2010 |
| • Maximum number of dogs tested on a single day | by General Meeting 2010 |
| • Compliance with respective state laws in Germany | by General Meeting 2011 |

A Valid Hunting License is Mandatory

The handler must show proof of a valid hunting license. The test director may grant an exception in certain cases where such exception is necessary for reasons of breeding or hunting.

Test Repeats

A dog may not be tested more than twice in the same type of Association test. Participation in international tests does not count. This rule does not apply when the handler misses the test for reasons for which he is not responsible.

Part A, Water Work of the JGHV Test Regulations

A. General Guidelines

The ethical and conservative hunting of waterfowl as specified by federal and state hunting laws (§ 1, 2 of the German Federal Hunting Law) demands the use of efficient utility dogs.

The purpose of water work is to prepare the hunting dog for its future task of retrieving crippled or dead waterfowl out of the water, to prove the result of this preparation in a standardized test, and consequently to document it for breeding. To fulfill this purpose of the water work and at the same time to conduct this test in conformity with legal regulations, the following conditions are to be observed when using live ducks:

§ 35 (1) Generally Binding Regulations

- (a) The following rules of the General Part A are binding for all member clubs which conduct tests using live ducks, with consideration of the different regulations prevalent in different states.
- (b) These rules must also be followed during official training days {Wasserübungstagen}, and it must be guaranteed that not more than a total maximum of 3 ducks per dog is allowed for training purposes.
- (c) Intentional or grossly negligent violations of these regulations cause the immediate exclusion of the responsible persons from future training or test conductance. This is in addition to possible legal charges or disciplinary action by the Association.

(2) Water

A test pond or lake must be sufficiently large (at least 0.25 ha surface area), wide (at least 6 m at any spot) and deep (to force dogs to swim), and it must have sufficient cover (ca. 500 square meters), so that the duck can fully utilize its capability to flee.

(3) Responsible Persons

- (a) The member clubs designate one person for each test, which as "senior judge at the water" {Obmann am Wasser} is responsible for the full compliance with all of the following regulations during the water work.
- (b) In addition to the person specified in (a) above, the organizing club is similarly responsible for the compliance with these rules.

(4) Ducks

- (a) For testing only fully matured mallards may be used, which are temporarily incapacitated of flight by the method of Prof. Müller (paper strip around individual primaries of one wing).
- (b) Ducks must be raised and kept in such a way that they are used to cover and water, and that they can swim, dive and hide in cover. These conditions must be certified by the outfitter. Ducks must have opportunity to preen and grease their feathers until shortly before the test.
- (c) If it is not possible to maintain ducks under such conditions for acclimatization prior to the test, then these ducks must be transported directly to the test pond immediately before the test. They must be kept there unaffected by the test procedures.
- (d) The test duration per duck may not exceed 15 minutes. Sight chases are undesirable and must be terminated as soon as possible.

- (e) Ducks retrieved live by a dog must be humanely and immediately euthanized.
- (f) Dead ducks are to be kept separate from live ducks.
- (g) Duck crates are to be placed in such a manner that the working dog cannot find them.

(5) Nesting Season

Water work with live ducks may not be practiced and tested during the nesting season.

(6) Prerequisites for the Complete Testing of Water Work {Voraussetzungen zur Durchprüfung am Wasser}

The test behind the live duck may be conducted only after the dog has passed a gun sensitivity {Schussfestigkeit} test and after proving capable of reliably retrieving a dead duck from cover {Verlorensuchen und -bringen}.

(7) Dogs

- (a) Dogs are only admitted if their handler is in possession of a valid hunting license. Exceptions are only allowed in special cases for hunting or breeding purposes. They must be specified [on the test score sheet].
- (b) Dogs which fail the subjects listed in (6) or which have demonstrated gun sensitivity or shyness of live game {Schuss- oder Wildscheue} at this test before the water phase may not continue with the water test.
- (c) A tested, experienced dog must be available at each test for possible retrieves.
- (d) As a rule, each dog is given only one duck. The use of an additional duck is only allowed if the dog could not be tested with the previously released duck (i.e. if the released duck flies off prematurely).
- (e) Dogs which have passed the subject "independent search behind live duck in dense cover" {"Stöbern mit Ente in deckungsreichem Gewässer} once at a test with the score of at least "sufficient" must never be tested again in this subject. This does not apply to further testing in a selective breed test {Zuchtauslese-} or international test (e.g. Hegewald, IKP, or similar tests).
- (f) In case of a failing score a dog may be re-tested only once.
- (g) The predicate awarded for the duck work at the first successfully completed test is copied into the score sheets of all future tests with the notation: "according to test on"{laut Prüfung vom...}. A copy of score sheets for this test has to be submitted to the test director with the entry form.

- (h) In addition to the total result of the respective test, every test in the subject "independent search with live duck in dense cover" has to be entered with the predicate (and possibly points) into the pedigree {Ahnentafel}.

Protest Regulations

- § 1 These protest regulations replace all protest stipulations in the regulations for Association Tests.
- § 2 Only the handler of a dog entered in the respective test has the right to protest.
- § 3 (1) The justification for a protest is limited to errors and mistakes of the organizers, the test director, the judges and assistants in preparation and execution of the test, provided that the handler or dog were thereby disadvantaged or were interfered with during their work.
- (2) Objections to the discretionary freedom of the judges cannot be subject of a protest, unless an obvious abuse of discretionary freedom can be substantiated.
- § 4 The protest period begins with the calling of the dogs to the test and ends 1/2 hour after the awards have been issued.
- § 5 The protest is to be submitted to the test director or the present chairman of the club or the involved senior judge in simple, written form. It must specify the reason for the protest, and must be accompanied by payment of a protest fee of Euro € 15.00. This fee is refunded if the protest is sustained. Otherwise, the Euro € 15.00 are credited to the club treasury.
- § 6 The decision about the protest is made by a protest panel {Einspruchskammer}, unless the respective judges group takes advantage of the possibility to remedy the situation. The protest panel consists of a chairperson {Vorsitzender} and two committee members {Beisitzer}.
- § 7 The person filing the protest and the organizing club each name one committee member. These two committee members agree upon the chairperson. Should the two committee members not agree regarding the chairperson, then the organizing club designates the chairperson. All members of the panel must be recognized Association Judges.
- Persons cannot be members of a protest panel if they are married, related by birth or marriage up to the 3rd degree, or live in partnership with the protesting handler or a member of the judging group or any other person affected by the protest. This also applies to owners, breeders and trainers of the respective dog and respective offspring in the first generation.
- § 8 The committee members do not serve as advocates for a party. Their decisions, and likewise those of the chairperson, must be based upon a hearing of the respective

parties (the handler and the judges must be questioned) and examination of the facts of the case according to the test regulations, and must be made to the best of their knowledge and conscience in complete objectivity.

§ 9 If the issue cannot be settled amicably, the decision can entail:

- (a) Rejection of the protest;
- (b) Correction of the scoring, if the test regulations were applied erroneously or the discretionary freedom was abused;
- (c) Re-testing of the respective subjects if test regulations were violated. The test director orders and supervises the execution of the re-testing. The re-testing does not have to be conducted by the judges whose decision was called into question.

Members of a protest panel may not be involved in re-testing.

Incurring costs are to be borne either by the protester and/or the organizing club, depending on the decision of the protest panel.

§ 10 The decision of the protest panel is final. The chairperson must write the minutes of the proceedings, containing the judgment and a short justification. The minutes must be submitted along with the test records to the Registry Office {Stammbuchamt} by the organizing club.

§ 11 In cases where gross procedural errors occurred (e.g., faulty composition of the protest panel, failure to hear one or more parties, or incorrect application or interpretation of the test regulations), the Registry Commission {Stammbuchkommission} can order the repeat of the proceedings. Date and location of the proceedings must be communicated to the Registry Commission in time, so that an observer can be dispatched if necessary. The club can file a formal complaint with the Executive Committee {Präsidium} against the Registry Commission. This complaint must be received by the business office {Geschäftsstelle} within 2 weeks following its announcement (date of post mark).

Allowable Test Entries in Accordance With Section 23 of the JGHV By-Laws

Excerpt from JGHV By-Laws § 23

Admission to Association Tests

- (1) Successful training and handling of healthy, mentally stable, socially adapted and dependable hunting dogs are facilitated by careful and objectively controlled breeding which incorporates established scientific facts. In doing so, the breeding of dogs serves to promote the interest of animal protection, with regard to the game hunted as well as the hunting dog itself.

The testing system serves to determine the performance capability of the dogs with regard to hunting and the interests of breeding relative to the overall population of a certain breed, and thereby establishes the basis for valuations.

- (2) All clubs that are JGHV member clubs in accordance with § 3(1) no. 1 a) – e) of the by-laws are authorized by status of their membership to conduct tests in compliance with the JGHV Test Regulations and General Guidelines.
- (3) There is a differentiation between:
 - (a) Tests and performance awards of general applicability (such as Association blood tracking test [VSwP], Association test after the shot [VPS], retrieve reliability test [Btr], Armbruster Halt [AH], and others). Tests in this category are established and adopted by the General Meeting of JGHV;
 - (b) Joint breed and utility tests for pointing breeds (such as VJP, HZP, VGP). These tests are to ensure that certain performance standards that are vital to hunting practices can be compared and sustained. Regulations for tests in this category are established and adopted during the General Meeting of JGHV by the pointing breed clubs and clubs that conduct the respective tests at least every two years;
 - (c) Other tests of breed clubs which are established by such clubs.
- (4) In accordance with paragraph 3, all **recognized** hunting dogs must be allowed to enter above tests. Recognized hunting dogs are defined as:
 - (a) Hunting dogs which are registered in a breed book maintained by a breed club/association which is a JGHV and a VDH member club, as well as dogs bred in the club for hunting earth dogs {Verein Jagdteckel} and in the club for hunting beagles (VJB) (grandfathered protection);
 - (b) Hunting dogs that have been bred in other countries and belong to a breed which is represented within JGHV by a club with a breed registry. Their pedigrees must show the F.C.I. stamp {Fédération Cynologique Internationale};
 - (c) Hunting dogs that are registered with a breed club/association and are qualified by a registration document bearing the logo of the „Sperlingshund“.
- (5) Performance tests (such as VGP, VSwP, VFSP, VStP) are further open to all **eligible** dogs. Eligible dogs are defined as:
 - (a) Hunting dogs that have been bred in other countries, and their offspring which are outside the scope of 4(b) above, but which have a pedigree that is recognized by F.C.I.; the authenticity of such pedigree has been verified by VDH; and
 - (b) Hunting dogs of certain breeds bred in Germany with a pedigree of a VDH breed club which is not a JGHV member club.

Entry eligibility by nature of JGHV's purpose statement is granted by the JGHV Executive Committee in coordination with VDH once for the respective breed until revoked.

Conflict of Interest for Judges

An Association Judge / Apprentice Judge / Emergency Judge may not judge a dog that he owns, trained or bred. The same rule shall apply to first generation offspring of such dogs, and to offspring by a stud dog (first generation). Special breed clubs shall have the right to take into account their special breed specific needs. The JGHV business office shall be notified in advance of such needs. The Association Judge may also not judge dogs of handlers, breeders, stud dog owners or owners to whom he is or was related either by blood or marriage as remote as three times removed or to whom he is or was married, or with whom he lives in a domestic partnership.

Test Directors or Association Judges may not handle a dog at tests where they engage in test director or judging activities.

Judging Engagements By JGHV Association Judges

Association Judges may judge only at tests that are organized by JGHV member clubs; included herein are official utility tests organized by the individual states. The rules for judging engagements in other countries are established by the individual member club in sole responsibility. The Association Judge shall consider his acceptance of a judging invitation to be a binding commitment and consequently report to the test location to judge dogs that are recognized by JGHV or by the individual state's test regulations for utility tests.

Violations may be penalized in accordance with § 4 of the JGHV Disciplinary Rules {Disziplinarordnung}.

Maximum Number of Dogs per Day per Judging Group

A judging group is allowed to judge, in a single day, dogs at different tests; i.e. *VJP/Derby, HZP/Solms; VGP/HZP*.

At a JGHV test, a judging group may not judge more than the maximum number of dogs allowed per judging group per day in accordance with the respective test regulation.

Compliance with State Laws

JGHV tests are conducted in compliance with the laws of the respective state.

- JGHV Business Office -