

GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF AMERICA

DRAFT TEST RULES & REGULATIONS



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GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF AMERICA
DRAFT TEST REGULATIONS
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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America (GSMDCA or Club) Draft Tests are a series of standardized exercises through which Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs (GSMD) and other breeds are judged at GSMDCA-sponsored draft tests in order to obtain GSMDCA drafting titles. The Greater Swiss Mountain Dog historically has functioned as a draft dog in various capacities. Accordingly these exercises have been designed to reflect realistic work situations. Successful performance should demonstrate:

- The dog's inherent drafting ability refined by training and teamwork.
- The dog's readiness to work with his handler to accomplish the exercises efficiently.
- The dog's willingness and enjoyment of his work displayed by the combination of controlled-teamwork with his handler and natural independence.
- The handler's proper understanding of draft work, equipment and regulations.

Guidelines

The American Kennel Club (AKC) Obedience Regulations, AKC Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events, and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America shall apply to all persons and dogs except as these GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations direct otherwise. When a conflict of regulations exists, AKC rules and regulations shall prevail.

Policy

The GSMDCA invites and encourages any dog to enter a GSMDCA Draft Test. This includes dogs of other breeds as well as mixed breeds with an interest in draft work.

The GSMDCA also allows Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs to earn GSMDCA Draft Titles by competing in Bernese Mountain Dog, Newfoundland Dog and the New England Drafting and Driving Club Draft Tests. While competing in these clubs' tests, the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog and handler must follow the Draft Test Regulations of that club. Members should remember they are representing the GSMDCA when competing in other Draft Tests and unsportsmanlike conduct could result in the suspension of GSMDs from participating in these clubs' future tests.

Organization of Regulations

These regulations are organized so that the first portion (Chapters 1 through 7) is directed to those individuals desiring to enter a GSMDCA Draft Test while the second portion (Chapters 8-9) addresses administrative matters such as applying to hold a draft test and the duties of the draft test committee.

CHAPTER 1

Qualifying Performances, Titles, and Classes

Section 1. Test Description & Qualifying Performances

- a. Test Description.** A GSMDCA Draft test consists of three parts. All teams will complete each part before proceeding to the next.
1. **Basic Control** exercises. These are performed off cart and consist of the dog conducting a very simple heel pattern in which the dog must remain within the handler's reach at all times and a basic recall exercise. These exercises indicate whether the dog is obedient enough to safely pull a draft apparatus. Basic Control may be waived for dogs who have obtained their AKC Companion Dog (CD) title.
 2. **Practical Draft Work** exercises. These consist of harnessing and hitching the dog, and, while hitched, negotiating a maneuver course consisting of various exercises.
 3. The **Group Stay** and **Distance Freight Haul** exercises. These consist of conducting a group stay in cart while loaded and a one mile freight haul.
- b. Pass/Fail:** Dogs are judged on a Pass/Fail basis and are not scored for points. There shall be two judges presiding over the Draft Test and, for the dogs to qualify, both judges must mark them with a passing performance in all of the exercises in the class entered.

Section 2. Titles

- a. Novice Draft Dog (NDD):** Each dog with a passing performance in the Novice Draft Class shall earn the GSMDCA title Novice Draft Dog (NDD).
- b. Draft Dog (DD):** Each dog with a passing performance in the Open Draft Class shall earn the GSMDCA title Draft Dog (DD).
- c. Novice Brace Draft Dog (NBDD):** Each dog with a passing performance in the Novice Brace Draft Class shall earn the GSMDCA title Novice Brace Draft Dog (NBDD).
- d. Brace Draft Dog (BDD):** Each dog with a passing performance in the Open Brace Draft Class shall earn the GSMDCA title Brace Draft Dog (BDD).
- e. Master Draft Dog (MDD):** Each dog with a passing performance in five (5) draft tests in the Open Draft Class shall earn the GSMDCA title Master Draft Dog (MDD).

f. Master Brace Draft Dog (MBDD): Each dog with a passing performance five (5) draft tests in the Open Brace Draft Class shall earn the GSMDCA title Master Brace Draft Dog (MBDD).

Certificates. GSMDCA draft title certificates will be mailed to the owners of passing dogs at GSMDCA draft tests following the receipt of the Draft Test Report and review by the GSMDCA DWC Chair.

Other breed tests. The GSMDCA also allows Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs to earn GSMDCA Draft Titles by competing in Bernese Mountain Dog, Newfoundland Dog and the New England Drafting and Driving Club Draft Tests. GSMDCA draft title certificates will be mailed to the owners of passing dogs following the receipt of proof of passing by the GSMDCA DWC Chair.

Master Draft Dog Certificates. Due to the possibility of earning GSMDCA draft titles at other clubs' tests, the GSMDCA cannot continually track successful completion of the multiple tests necessary to achieve Master Draft Dog and Master Brace Draft Dog titles. Thus it is the responsibility of the dog's owner to maintain records of each passing performance (e.g. copies of the judges' score sheets) and to submit proof of passing for each test when requesting issuance of GSMDCA MDD or MBDD titles and certificates.

Section 3. Classes

Dogs are eligible to enter any class without prerequisite (e.g. a dog may enter Open Draft Class without first obtaining a Novice Draft Dog title).

a. Novice Draft Class.

All exercises, except for the Recall in Basic Control and Group Stay are on leash. The leash must be kept visibly slack and is not to be used to physically guide the dog. The dog should not be dependent on the leash and should respond as if the leash were not there. A tight leash and guiding and jerking with the leash will result in a failing performance

b. Open Draft Class.

All exercises are performed off leash and the handler is out-of-sight during the Group Stay.

c. Novice Brace Draft Class.

Performed with two dogs paired side-by-side and on leash. A coupling hitching one dog beside the other may be used but is not required. Dogs may be leashed individually or singly via a coupling not less than six (6) inches in length. Evaluation criteria and all exercises are the same as those for the Novice Draft Class.

d. Open Brace Draft Class. Two dogs paired side-by-side as in the Novice Brace Draft Class. All exercises are performed off leash and are same as those for the Advanced Draft Class.

CHAPTER 2

Glossary of Terms

a. Apparatus. The draft equipment used at the test. It may be a cart, wagon, sled, toboggan or travois (Ch. 3-3-a).

b. Body Blocking. The use of the handler's body to physically block the motion of the dog.

c. Brace. Two dogs working beside each other on one apparatus, coupled or uncoupled.

d. Brace Team. A **Brace** and handler.

e. Bump. Moderate contact between the dog, apparatus and/or handler with any object or person during any portion of the draft test. Also includes contact between the dog or apparatus and handler and vice versa. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Glancing contact between the wheel of the apparatus and an obstacle when conducting a turn.
- The dog brushing against the side of the gate when leaving the Practical Draft Work area.
- The dog bumping into a handler.

In a severity of contact spectrum **Bumps** are in the middle between **Touch** and **Crash**.

f. Change of Pace. The alteration of the speed in movement from Normal to Slow to Normal or from Normal to Fast to Normal. *Both* the handler and the dog should demonstrate the Change of Pace. *Teams will not be asked to perform a Fast with the apparatus.*

g. Crash. Significant contact between the dog, apparatus and/or handler with any object or person during any portion of the draft test. Includes contact between the dog or apparatus and handler and vice versa which results in:

- The upset of an obstacle and/or object.
- The upset of the apparatus.
- The cart and/or team require hands-on extraction from the obstacle.

Examples include but are not limited to:

- Knocking over a traffic cone used to mark a turn.
- The cart flips when a traversing a tree root on the freight haul.
- The shafts become stuck in fencing to the extent the cart can't be extracted by backing or maneuvering only causing the handler to physically free the apparatus.

h. Decorations. Any decorative attachment that is not part of the basic construction of the apparatus.

- i. Distraction.** An event which focuses the dog's attention away from negotiating the draft test. May be planned or unplanned (see Ch. 5-6).
- j. Dog.** The term "dog" applies to dogs of both sexes.
- k. Double Command.** A command that includes both a verbal and signal command.
- l. Elimination.** The act of either defecation or urination during the draft test.
- m. Halt.** The cessation of motion of the dog upon the handler's command. "HALT" is the concept being judged. Handlers may use any command word they wish.
- n. Hover.** The bending of the handler's upper body directly over the dog.
- o. Leash Guidance.** Any movement of the leash by the handler that is made with the intention of exerting control. A leash "guides" the dog as the slack is reduced. A tight leash is only the most extreme example of leash guidance. Judges shall use common sense in evaluating whether the dog would have responded if the leash had not been there.
- p. Move Ups.** Negotiating a draft test in the Open Class when originally entered in Novice. Permitted in back-to-back tests or closely scheduled tests when a team qualifies at the earlier test in Novice and desires to "move up" to Open in the second. (See Chapter 9, Section 3 Entries, paragraph d).
- q. Multiple Commands.** Commands issued by another person besides the handler outside the ring.
- r. Off Course.** A significant deviation from the established path of the basic control pattern, maneuver course or freight haul course.
- s. Physically Guide.** Contact of any part of the handler's body with the dog or the draft apparatus with the intention of exerting control.
- t. Slow.** A pace distinctly slower than the pace immediately preceding it. *Both* the handler and the dog demonstrate the change.
- u. Stay.** Dog remains in both the same location and same position (sit, down, or stand). Minor movements such as adjusting of feet or rolling to the opposite hip are acceptable, provided the apparatus is not moved out of position. "STAY" is the *concept* being judged. The handler may use any command word they wish.
- v. Team.** Handler and one dog or two dogs.
- w. Tight Leash.** A lead that is not slack or loose and does not have a visible "U" or "J" shape between dog and handler.

x. Touch. Incidental and inconsequential contact between the dog or apparatus and handler and vice versa. Examples include but are not limited to:

- The brushing of the apparatus' shafts with the handler's clothing when conducting a turn.
- The dog suddenly rubbing against its handler's hand during a break in the freight haul.

y. Wait. Dog remains in the same location but may change its position (sit, down, or stand) or shift its feet, provided the apparatus does not move out of position. "WAIT" is the *concept* being judged. Handlers may use any command word they wish.

CHAPTER 3

Entry Requirements & Handler Responsibilities

Section 1. Entry Requirements

a. Dogs Eligible to Compete. The Draft Test is open to all breeds and mixed breeds. In determining Draft Test entrants, preference will be given to handlers of purebred Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs.

b. Age. The Draft Test may be entered by dogs 18 months or older on the day of the Draft Test.

c. Bitches in Season. Bitches in season are not permitted to compete. Entry fees shall be refunded upon receipt of a veterinary certificate stating an entered bitch is in season at the time of the Draft Test

d. Brace Teams. Dogs of a brace team need not be of the same breed or sex, nor need they have the same owner.

e. Dogs That May Not Compete. No dog belonging wholly or in part to the Draft Test judge or the Draft Test Secretary or to any member of their immediate family may enter in any Draft Test at which they officiate.

f. Waiving Basic Control. The Basic Control Exercise shall be waived for dogs which have earned an AKC, UKC, SKC, CKC Companion Dog (CD) title if a copy of the CD title certificate is sent with the entry form. In the event the CD requirements were met, but the title certificate has not yet been received, the entrant may so state on the form and in a separate letter attached to the entry. If the dog passes the Draft Test, the DD title and certificate will be withheld until after the DWC Chairman receives a copy of the CD title certificate. For Brace Class entries both dogs must have earned their CDs in order to waive Basic Control.

Section 2. Handler Responsibilities

a. Entering at Own Risk. The handler entering a dog in a Draft Test does so at his own risk and agrees to abide by the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations.

b. GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations. It is the responsibility of each handler to be familiar with the following: the GSMDCA Constitution and By-Laws, GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations, AKC Obedience Regulations and AKC Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events. The GSMDCA Draft Regulations are available on the Draft Page at the GSMDCA web site (www.gsmdca.org).

c. On Time. Teams and their equipment must be present for their scheduled Equipment Check or forfeit their entry. Judges are not responsible for waiting for any handler or dog.

d. Same Handler. Dogs shall be exhibited by the same handler for all exercises except if a handler has two or more dogs entered, each dog must have a separate handler for the group exercises when judged in the same group.

e. Entries. See Chapter 9, Section 3.

f. Control of Dogs Outside of Ring. All entered dogs must be on leash or crated when not competing. All unentered dogs must be on leash or crated at all times and should be kept away from the immediate edges of the basic control ring and maneuver course.

g. Training on the Grounds. Training on the Draft Test grounds is not permitted. A dog may be hitched to a draft apparatus to aid in the unloading/transport of equipment from a vehicle to the competition area, as this is a typical and practical application of draft work.

h. Warm Ups. Entered teams are allowed a warm-up as permitted in AKC Obedience competition - approximately 5 minutes, all on leash, not hitched to a draft apparatus - prior to the ring exercises.

i. Discipline and Complaints. Discipline for violations of the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations will be under provisions of the GSMDCA Constitution and By-Laws. Complaints must be registered with the Draft Test Chairman no later than thirty (30) days following the completion of the draft test.

Section 3. Equipment

The handler must provide the following. All equipment must be in serviceable condition and must be present at the time of the Equipment Check.

a. Apparatus. Since Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs live in a variety of climates and perform draft work in a variety of situations, any of the following draft apparatuses may be used: cart, wagon, sled, toboggan or travois. Each of these must be equipped such that the draft apparatus cannot run up on the dog when hauling downhill.

The same draft apparatus must be used for all exercises. The condition of this equipment is the responsibility of the handler. Judges may excuse a team from competition if the equipment is deemed inadequate or faulty. Note that if a sled, toboggan or travois is used the Backing exercise will be conducted unhitched.

Decorations not permanently attached to apparatus are not permitted on or in the apparatus.

The apparatus will be empty at the beginning of the maneuver portion of the draft test except for tie-downs or other means of securing a load for the Load /Unload exercises.

b. Collars and leads. All dogs must wear properly fitted buckle, slip or limited slip (Martingale) style of collars approved by the judge. Prong collars and electronic collars are not permitted. Nothing may be hanging from the dog's collar with the exception of ID, rabies and license tags. Leashes must be made of fabric or leather and should be of sufficient length to provide adequate slack. In Novice Brace Draft the dogs may be individually leashed or coupled with a single leash.

c. Brace Couplings. Couplings hitching one dog beside the other may be used but are not required.

d. Harness. The harness must be in proper working condition and fit the dog.

e. Freight Load. The handler selects an appropriate freight load for the apparatus and the dog within the following guidelines:

- Travois: 5 to 30 pounds
- Sled or Toboggan: 15 to 50 pounds
- Wheeled Apparatus: 25 to 100 pounds*.

*For dogs weighing less than 80 lbs, the freight load weight may be 25% of the dog's body weight, rounded up to the nearest pound. For example a 50 lb. dog would carry 13 lbs of freight. Documentation from a veterinarian (or his staff) certifying the weight of the dog must accompany the draft test entry. Documentation must include the name of the dog and the name and phone number of the certifying veterinarian or assistant and must be dated no earlier than 30 days prior to the receipt of entry.

Handlers are responsible for providing their own loads. The weight of non-standardized Freight Haul weights shall be verified by a scale at the Draft Test site during the Equipment Check.

The Freight Weights are to be used only during the Freight Haul and not during the Maneuver Exercises. No person or animal may serve as the Freight Load.

The handler must be able to secure the load adequately so that it does not shift when the apparatus moves. The handler must place and secure the load into or on the draft apparatus without help from anyone else, unless the judges grant an exception and permit assistance.

If permitted by the judges, handlers may be allowed to carry water to offer to their dog during breaks during the Freight Haul. If water is carried in the apparatus and not by the handler, it should be secured to prevent shifting and will be treated as if it is part of the Freight Load.

If permitted by the judges, handlers may be allowed to carry a small tool kit for making emergency repairs. If the tool kit is carried in the apparatus and not by the handler, it should be secured to prevent shifting and will be treated as if it is part of the Freight Load.

f. Equipment Failure and Break Downs. While being tested if at any time during the test the equipment breaks down in a manner that could not have been anticipated by the handler, the judges may allow the handler to make an emergency repair. The repair must be made within ten (10) minutes with materials that the handler carries or carries in the apparatus. The handler must make the repairs without assistance from others.

CHAPTER 4

Equipment Check and Walk Through

Section 1. Equipment Check

The Draft Test day will begin with an Equipment Check. The time of the Equipment Check will be published in the draft test premium list and the program. Teams must be in position with dog(s) harnessed and hitched to draft apparatus, and the freight haul weight as well as any other material (e.g. water container, bowl and tool kit or making emergency repairs) to be carried on the freight haul must be secured in the apparatus at the specified time. Failure of a team to be in position at the scheduled time of the Equipment Check may result in disqualification.

Judges shall check all draft equipment to be used in the Draft Test. They will examine the collars, leashes, harnesses, apparatuses, freight loads, and tie-downs or other weight securing devices for adherence to these Regulations (Ch 3.3).

If water or a tool kit is to be carried in the apparatus and not by the handler, it must be present at the equipment check and secured as if it is part of the Freight Load.

The judges shall ascertain that the freight load and rigging is suitable for the apparatus. At the judges' discretion, the steward may be asked to weigh any of the loads.

Should the judges find a problem with a handler's equipment that in their opinion could potentially cause harm to the dog, they may recommend that the handler make the repair. The repair must be complete at the time of the subsequent equipment check that occurs at the end of the Harnessing and Hitching exercise at the beginning of the Practical Draft Work exercise. Should the equipment be found faulty at that time, then the team must be failed.

The **Draft Apparatus Worksheet**, provided by the DWC to the Draft Test Secretary shall be used by the judges to record the equipment used by each team as well as to record the widest portion of the apparatus for use by the Narrows Steward for computing the width of the Narrow Passageway for each team.

After the Equipment Check, with the exceptions of any recommendations made by the judges, no alterations, substitutions, or eliminations may be made without the approval of a judge. The equipment must remain in safe working condition throughout the Draft Test. The judges may fail improper or unsafe equipment during the scheduled Equipment Check or at any time during the remainder of the Draft Test.

Section 2. Walk Through

Following the equipment check is the Judges' Briefing and Walk Through for the handlers. The Walk Through will include the Basic Control, the Maneuver course, and Freight Haul course. The Walk Through of the Freight Haul may be omitted if all handlers decline to participate. Dogs may not accompany handlers on the Walk Through.

CHAPTER 5

General Judging Procedures & Behavior Guidelines

Section 1. General Judging Procedure

a. Pass/Fail. All judging is on a pass/fail basis.

b. Decisions. To earn a title, both judges must pass the dog and handler on all exercises in either the Individual or Brace Class. Judges' decisions are final in all cases. Full discretionary power is given to the judges to withhold any or all prizes.

c. Criteria. The primary quality to be emphasized in Draft Tests is the ability to perform the assigned tasks. However dogs shall be judged for willingness, ability, enthusiasm, naturalness as a team, and smoothness of performance. A dog that effectively completes the task within a reasonable time period and without physical assistance should be scored as passed if it has performed willingly. A dog that does everything correctly but appears to be in fear of severe correction from its handler shall be scored as failed.

d. Verbal Evaluations. Each handler will be verbally informed by the judges if are passing or failing at the completion of each series of exercises as follows:

- Basic Control
- Maneuvering Course
- Group Freight Haul

e. Draft Test Score Sheets. Each team's performance will be evaluated by means of a Draft Test (Judges') Score Sheet completed by each judge. Handlers may request a copy of their score sheets from the Draft Test Secretary who will send them within seven days of the test.

Section 2. General Behavior Guidelines

a. Excusing a Dog. Judges must immediately excuse any dog for any of the following reasons:

- The dog attacks or attempts to attack a person or dog on the test grounds.
- The handler deliberately interferes with another handler or dog.
- The handler behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in or outside the testing area.
(Unsportsmanlike behavior includes: directing angry, abusive language at a person or dog; mistreating a dog; showing discourtesies to judges, test officials, stewards or others.)
- The dog is lame or wears corrective bandages or other attachments.
- The dog at any time during a test exhibits lack of physical capacity.

The judges will mark the dog disqualified and state the reason on the Judge's Report.

b. Misbehavior. Any display of fear or nervousness by the dog, or any uncontrolled behavior of a dog such as snapping, barking or running away from its handler, whether it occurs before, during or between exercises, must be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior, and the judge may expel or excuse the dog from further competition in the test.

c. Qualifying and Non-Qualifying Performances.

Judges will mark entrants with a failing performance for the following reasons during any portion of the test. Failures common to ALL Exercises:

- A dog is not under the handler's control.
- A handler yells at his dog frequently to maintain control of his dog.
- A handler abuses the dog or fails to show consideration for the dog's welfare.
- A dog eliminates.
- The handler or dog violates specific test site regulations.

CHAPTER 6

Exercises for Novice Draft Dog

Section 1. General Performance Guidelines

- a. Desired Performance.** The dog and handler should evidence teamwork and efficiency, and the dog should appear happy and willing.
- b. Multiple Commands.** Except as specified, multiple commands, verbal praise, hand and body signals may be used and are encouraged in all of the Draft Test exercises. Whistling is not permitted.
- c. Position of Handler with Respect to Dog.** A handler may work on both sides, in back, or in front of the dog.
- d. Collars and Leashes.** In the Novice exercises, guiding by the collar between exercises is permitted. All dogs must be kept on leash except when in the ring, and must be brought into and taken out of the ring on leash. Dogs must be kept on leash when entering the ring for the Group exercises and to receive awards.
- e. Touches, Bumps and Crashes.**
- **Touches** will not result in failure unless in the opinion of the judges they are excessive (exception: any **Touch** while negotiating the Narrows exercise will result in failure).
 - A Novice team is allowed a maximum of two (2) **Bumps**, one during Practical Draft Work and another during the Group Stay/Distance Freight Haul exercises (exception: any **Bump** while negotiating the Narrows exercise will result in failure).
 - Any **Crash** will result in failure.
- f. Touching Dog or Equipment.** The handler may not touch the dog or equipment except in the following cases:
1. During the Harness and Hitch Exercise to the extent necessary to complete both tasks.
 2. Permission to touch the dog or equipment is requested of and may be granted by the judge.
- g. Intimidating Commands.** Harsh or overly loud commands or body movements meant to intimidate the dog into performing an exercise will be scored as failed. A dog that appears to be in fear of a severe correction from the handler shall be scored as failed.
- h. Body Blocking.** A handler that physically blocks or attempts to physically block the dog shall be scored as failed.

- i. **Hovering.** Excessive hovering (Ch 2-g) to force the dog to move backwards will result in failure.
- j. **Food and Toys.** A handler shall not carry or offer food or toys during the Draft Test exercises.
- k. **Double Handling.** A dog shall not receive commands or be controlled or assisted from outside the ring.
- l. **Elimination.** A dog that eliminates during the test will be marked as failed, but the team will be permitted to continue with the exercises.

Section 2. Basic Control

a. Overview. Basic Control takes place in a ring at least forty feet by fifty feet (40'x 50'). Two different exercises make up Basic Control: a heeling pattern and a recall. One judge will call the commands, but both judges mark the dog's and handler's performances. Extra hand signals, voice commands, and praise are acceptable on the motion exercises, including the sits during the heeling pattern. See Ch. 3-1-f for the criteria for waiving the Basic Control exercises.

b. Heel: The dog is expected to heel within arms' reach of the handler's left side at all times. The handler may not touch his dog but may command and encourage the dog to remain within arms' reach at all times. It is desirable, but not required, for the dog to sit by the handler's side at halts.

1. Judge's Commands (not necessarily in this order): *"Are you ready?"*, *"Forward"*, *"Slow"*, *"Fast"*, *"Normal"*, *"Right turn"*, *"Left turn"*, *"About turn"*, *"Halt"*, *"Exercise finished"*. Judges will determine the heeling pattern and order of their commands.

2. Failing performance:

- a) Dog frequently heels beyond the handler's reach.
- b) No change of pace.
- c) Dog is considered unmanageable by the judges.
- d) Handler physically guides or touches the dog.
- e) **Leash Guidance.**
- f) Dog leaves the ring.

c. Recall: The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by the handler and that the dog responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to come.

1. Sequence:

- a) On order from the judge, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The dog must execute the **stay** for the recall with a single command and/or signal.
- b) The handler will then walk forward to the other end of the ring, turn to face the dog, and stand with the arms and hands hanging naturally.
- c) On the judge's order or signal, the handler will either command or signal the dog to come with a single command or signal. Once the dog is motion, extra commands, encouragement, and hand signals are allowed. The dog must come directly towards the handler.
- d) The dog must stop close enough to its handler so that the handler can touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. It is desirable, but not required, for the dog to sit upon reaching the handler.

2. Judge's commands: *"Are you ready?", "Sit your dog", "Leave your dog", Call your dog", "Exercise finished"*.

3. Failing performance:

- a) Handler gives more than one stay command.
- b) Dog does not **stay**.
- c) Dog does not come on first command.
- d) Dog does not come to handler.
- e) Dog remains out of reach.
- f) Handler physically guides or touches the dog.
- g) Dog leaves the ring.

Section 3. Harness, Hitch, and Equipment Check

a. Overview. A Draft Test demonstrates cooperation between the handler and dog. Since a handler's draft work knowledge and abilities are essential to draft work, the judges evaluate a handler's knowledge and ability to select the correct equipment for the dog, site, and conditions and to use the equipment properly. It is critical that a handler understand the equipment that the dog uses, since the dog has no recourse if the equipment is poor. The equipment includes the harness, draft apparatus, and any traces or tack required.

The equipment must remain in safe working condition throughout the Draft Test. Consequently, the judges may fail improper or unsafe equipment not only during the scheduled Equipment Check but also at any time during the remainder of the test.

A handler may touch the dog only as required to harness and hitch the dog, but may not touch to discipline. The dog must demonstrate willingness to be harnessed and hitched to the draft apparatus without shying. The judges may touch the dog and equipment as necessary for checking. Once checked, equipment may not be substituted, and the handler must use the approved equipment throughout the remainder of the test.

b. Sequence.

1. Prior to the team entering the test area, the Cart Steward brings the cart into the Harness and Hitch area of the ring.
2. The handler and dog (on leash) enter the ring and are directed by the judge to a position approximately 6 feet in front of the cart.
3. In the Novice class the dog remains leashed. Exception: The leash may temporarily be removed as necessary during harnessing as long as it's replaced immediately afterwards.
4. The handler leaves the dog on a Wait and retrieves the harness from the draft apparatus. The handler may leave the dog in any position—Sit, Down, or Stand—and may turn the dog to face the cart while retrieving the harness.
5. The handler returns to and harnesses the dog.
6. *For teams performing the test with a non-wheeled apparatus only:* When instructed by the judges, the handler commands the dog to back up. Within a one (1) minute time limit, the dog must back a distance of at least three (3) feet in the direction of the draft apparatus without varying more than 90 degrees to either side.
7. The handler hitches the dog to the draft apparatus. The handler may direct the dog move closer to the cart and/or move the cart closer to the dog in order to hitch it. **Physically guiding** and/or **leash guidance** of the dog, with the exception of the necessary contact to hitch, is grounds for a failing performance.
8. Once the dog is hitched, the handler shall indicate readiness to proceed. The judges will then instruct the handler to move the dog forward at least ten (10) feet where they will halt and the judges will verify that the equipment works properly and safely. At this time, the judges may move in closer and may touch the dog and apparatus as may be necessary to confirm that the rigging is safe and proper. Should the judges observe that something is unsatisfactory or unsafe, they must mark the team as failed. They may then allow the handler to correct the problem before continuing with the Draft Test. If the problem cannot be corrected, then the team shall be excused.

c. Judge's commands: *"Are you ready?" "Harness your dog", "(Back your dog)", "Hitch your dog", "Forward", "Halt", "Exercise finished".*

d. Failing Performance:

1. Handler physically guides dog during the exercise, with the exception of the necessary physical contact required to harness and to hitch the dog.
2. Dog refuses to accompany handler to harnessing or hitching area.
3. Dog does not **wait** while handler retrieves harness from cart.
4. Dog is uncooperative and/or resists harnessing.
5. *For teams performing the test with a non-wheeled apparatus only:* Dog does not back up three (3) feet on command within the one (1) minute time limit.
6. *For teams performing the test with a non-wheeled apparatus only:* Dog substantially changes direction while backing (judges' discretion, but changes of direction less than 90 degrees will not fail).
7. Dog is uncooperative and/or resists hitching.

8. Dog does not move forward ten (10) feet for equipment check.
9. Handler does not properly harness or hitch the dog to the apparatus.
10. Harness does not fit correctly.
11. The hitch is unsafe.
12. Apparatus balance is unsafe or causes dog trouble while working.
13. Equipment is poorly designed or is in need of repair.
14. Draft equipment selected by handler is inappropriate for site.

Section 4. Practical Draft Work

a. Overview. The practical draft work portion of the test consists of the team negotiating a series of exercises along the path of a maneuver course. The course must cover at least 10,000 square feet and includes at least the following individual exercises. With the exception of the Loading and Unloading exercises, the exercises may be in any order.

1. Two 90 degree turns: one each to the right and left.
2. Two circular 360 degree patterns: one each to the right and left (may be in the form of a "figure 8").
3. One narrow area six (6) or more feet long and at least two (2) feet high which will be adjusted to a width of 12 inches wider than the widest portion of each draft apparatus or team negotiating the course.
4. Loading: the dog **halts** and **waits** while a Friendly Stranger greets and provides the Handler a Load that the Handler secures in the draft apparatus.
5. Unloading: the dog **halts** and **waits** while a Friendly Stranger pets the dog and receives the Load from the handler.
6. Removable obstacle: the dog **halts** and **waits** while handler removes an obstacle such as a tree branch or child's toy. The team then proceeds past the obstacle. A subsequent **halt** and **wait** while handler replaces the obstacle is at the option of the judges.
7. Backing: the draft apparatus must **back** a distance of three (3) feet within one (1) minute.
8. Slow: the team must demonstrate a slower change of pace for 10 feet, and then resume a normal pace.
9. Weaves (optional): the team weaves between a series of straight line cones or other obstacles.
10. One intriguing visual distraction (see Section 7).

b. General Performance Guidelines. At the beginning of the maneuvering course, the judges tell the handler and dog to proceed with the course. The handler, with the dog on-lead and hitched to the draft apparatus hauls forward at a normal working speed unless commanded otherwise by the judges.

The handler need not memorize the maneuver course as the judge will direct the team towards each succeeding obstacle or exercise. However familiarization with the pattern

obtained during the Walk Through may aid the team in executing a smoother performance.

The team may halt at any time during the course of the exercise in order to get their bearing for the next exercise as there are no time constraints for traversing the course as long as the dog continues to work. However, significant deviations from the path of the course may indicate a lack of control and may result in failure.

The handler may work beside, behind, or in front of the dog, or any combination of these positions. The handler may not impede the dog's forward movement at any time. This includes stepping in front of a dog to enforce a halt command or stepping in front of a dog who tries to change direction against the handler's command.

The key factor to be judged is the exhibition of teamwork as well as completion of the exercises and willingness, ability, enthusiasm, and smoothness of performance.

Judges may require the Practical Draft Work exercises to be performed in any order. The different components of each exercise do not need to be performed consecutively. Except for the load received during the Loading exercise and any tie downs necessary to secure this load (provided by the handler); the Practical Draft Work exercises are performed with an empty draft apparatus.

Any **crashing** of any object or obstacle by the handler, dog or apparatus while negotiating the course will result in failure. The handler may not handle the draft apparatus or dog unless special permission is granted from the judges.

c. Detailed descriptions (*Judges Commands*).

1. Left and Right 90 Degree Turns. (*"Turn right", "Turn left"*). The handler may work on either side or in front of the dog but may not enforce a command by stepping in front of the dog to enforce a change of direction. Significant deviations from the path of the turn may indicate a lack of control and may result in failure.
2. Left and Right 360 circles or Figure 8. (*"Circle right", "Circle left"*). The handler may work on either side or in front of the dog but may not enforce a command by stepping in front of the dog to enforce a change of direction. Significant deviations from the radius of the 360 may indicate a lack of control and may result in failure.
3. Narrows. (*"Negotiate ((or Pull through)) the narrows"*) The narrow area should be adjusted to be twelve (12) inches wider than the widest point of each team (usually the apparatus). A team may readjust its alignment by backing or, prior to entering the narrows, by circling back as long as it doesn't proceed past the plane of the entrance to the narrows. The entire team must pass through the narrows without **touching**, **bumping** or **crashing**.
4. Loading. (*"Halt for loading", "Exercise finished"*) For the loading and unloading exercise, the team shall **halt**. The dog must **wait** in a stand, sit or down position.

After the dog has been told to stay, a steward or judge approaches. The steward or judge greets the handler, gives the handler a lightweight load and then leaves. The handler secures the load in or on the draft apparatus. The dog must **wait** until the judge gives the “*exercise finished*” command. Subsequently, during the test if the load should shift the handler may stop and, with the permission of the judges, reposition and secure the load.

5. Unloading. (“*Halt for unloading*”, “*Exercise finished*”) The team pulls the load at least 20 feet to another part of the ring where they again **halt**. The dog must again **wait**, as above. After the dog has been told to stay, another steward or judge approaches. The steward or judge greets the handler, greets and pats the dog and then receives the load from the handler. The dog must **wait** until the judge gives the “*exercise finished*” command.
6. The Removable Obstacle. (“*Negotiate ((or execute)) the obstacle*”) The dog **halts** and **waits** for the handler to move the obstacle and instructs the dog to move through the passageway. Once through, the judges may instruct the team to **halt** and, while the dog **waits**, the handler returns the obstacle to its former position. This option will be determined at the beginning of the test.
7. Backing. (“*Halt for backing*”, “*Prepare your dog for backing*”, “*Are you ready?*”, “*Back your dog.*” *Exercise Finished*”). The dog must back the draft apparatus at least three (3) feet within one (1) minute.

On the judge’s command “*Prepare your dog for backing*” the handler will position himself at the location he intends to command the dog to back. Once he indicates he is ready, the judge will place a backing measuring stick at the wheels of the draft apparatus in order to measure the distance backed. If during the course of backing the dog pulls the apparatus forward from this point, the necessary distance to successfully Back will be added to the original 3 feet.

The direction of the backing should be approximately straight. Draft apparatuses which pivot more than 45 degrees shall not pass. Handlers may attempt to have the dog straighten the apparatus, at which point it may continue the exercise. Again any additional distance traveled will be added to the original 3 feet.

8. **Slow**. (“*Slow*”, “*Normal*”). At the judge’s command of “*Slow*,” the dog and draft apparatus must exhibit a demonstratively slower change of pace for ten (10) feet. At the judge’s command “*normal*” the dog and draft apparatus must exhibit a demonstratively faster change of pace. If the dog and apparatus do not exhibit both a slower and a return to faster pace, the team will be marked as failed. Note it is the pace of the dog and draft apparatus, and not the pace of the handler, that is being judged.
9. Weaves. (“*Negotiate ((or execute)) the weaves*”). This exercise is optional per the judges’ discretion. It consists of no more than five thin obstacles (e.g. traffic

cones) in a straight line set at least nine feet apart. The team executes a weave pattern between the obstacles. A team may readjust its alignment by backing, or prior to passing between two obstacles, by circling back as long as it doesn't proceed past the plane formed by the obstacles.

10. Intriguing Distraction. See Section 8.

d. Failing performance:

1. Overall

- a. Handler impedes the dog's forward movement by moving in front of the dog to enforce a halt.
- b. Any handling of the draft apparatus or dog unless special permission is granted from the judges.
- c. Excessive **touches** by the dog or handler without judge's permission.
- d. Dog refuses to accompany handler.
- e. Dog does not obey commands given by handler.
- f. Dog, apparatus or handler **bumps** more than once (exception: Narrows).
- g. Dog or apparatus **Crashes**.
- h. **Leash Guidance**.
- i. Dog significantly deviates from the route of the maneuver course.
- j. Equipment breaks in a manner that could not be anticipated and cannot be repaired by the handler without assistance within ten (10) minutes.

2. Backing

- a. Dog does not back up three (3) feet on command within the one (1) minute time limit.
- b. The draft apparatus substantially changes direction and cannot be realigned and successfully backed within the time limit.

3. Slow - No change of pace.

4. Movable Obstacle

- a. No **halt**.
- b. Dog tries to pass removable obstacle without waiting for handler to move it.
- c. Dog does not **wait** while the handler removes obstacle.
- d. Dog does not **wait** while the handler returns the obstacle to original position (if required).

5. Loading and Unloading

- a. No **halt**.
- b. Dog does not **wait** when greeted and patted.
- c. Dog shows aggression or shyness when greeted and patted.
- d. Dog refuses to pull loaded draft apparatus.
- e. Load falls off draft apparatus.

6. Narrows.

- a. Any **touch**.
- b. Any **bump**.

Section 5. Freight Load

a. Load Amounts. The handler will provide the freight load for the apparatus. The handler selects an appropriate freight load for the apparatus as noted below:

- Travois: 5 to 30 pounds
- Sled or Toboggan: 15 to 50 pounds
- Wheeled Apparatus: 25 to 100 pounds.*

*For dogs weighing less than 80 lbs, the freight load weight may be 25% of the dog's body weight, rounded up to the nearest pound (see Chptr 3, Section 3, Paragraph e – Freight Loads).

b. Loading Procedures. Prior to entering the maneuver course area for the Group Stay, the handler must place the load in the apparatus and secure it so that it does not shift when the apparatus moves. The handler must place and secure the load into or on the draft apparatus without help from anyone else, unless the judges grant an exception and permit assistance.

The load must be appropriate for the dog, apparatus, and the site conditions.

c. Load Evaluation. From the moment a team enters the maneuver area for the Group Stay until the conclusion of the Freight Haul, the judges will be evaluating the Freight Load. The judges must fail a handler for the following reasons:

1. The freight load is too heavy for the dog to pull.
2. The load is not balanced.
3. The load is not securely tied down.
4. The dog is improperly harnessed or hitched.

If the judges fail a handler because the freight load is too heavy for the dog to pull, weight may be removed and the handler and dog may continue the course with a lighter load.

d. Failing Performance:

A failing performance may occur during loading or at any time during the remainder of the test.

1. Freight load is too heavy for the apparatus causing an unsafe condition.
2. Handler must reduce or re-balance the freight load after the dog begins to pull.
3. Dog refuses to move loaded draft apparatus.
4. Freight load becomes unbalanced when the apparatus is moving.
5. Freight load is too heavy for the dog.

Section 6. Group Stay

a. Overview. The dogs demonstrate their ability to remain on a stay while hitched. This is a group exercise. The stay is off leash with the handler standing across the maneuver area from the dog.

b. Sequence.

1. Dogs are hitched to their loaded draft apparatuses outside the maneuver area.
2. They enter the maneuver area in catalog order and are positioned by the handlers in accordance with the judges' instructions no closer than 5 feet between dogs.
3. At a judge's command, the dog is gently placed in a stand, sit or down. Draft apparatus shafts may be adjusted for the dog's comfort. The leash shall be placed behind the draft apparatus.
4. At the judge's command, the handler may command the dog to **stay** and leaves the dog to a position directed by the judge at least 30 feet away from the dog. The stay command and/or signal is given once and no other commands or signals may be given during this exercise. The stay is for three (3) minutes. Upon a signal from the judges, the handler returns to the dog's side. After a signal from the judge that this portion of the exercise is over, the handler re-attaches the lead and prepares for the freight haul.

c. Judge's commands: *"Position your dogs for the stay", "Leave your dogs", "Return to your dogs", "Exercise finished"*.

Failing performance:

1. Handler gives more than one stay command.
2. Dog changes position (e.g. from a down to a sit or stand).
3. Dog moves out of place.
4. Dog barks or whines repeatedly.
5. Rough placement of dog.
6. Dog is incorrectly harnessed or hitched

Section 7. Distance Freight Haul

a. Overview. The Distance Freight Haul is a group event with a maximum of eight (8) handlers per group. Each dog will haul a loaded apparatus on a course that is ideally one (1) mile in length, plus or minus .1 miles to accommodate local conditions. Each handler and dog will start the course in catalog order with an assigned steward. Once the dogs begin the trail, judges may allow the dogs and teams to find their position within the group according to each handler's and dog's working speed. Passing another team may be done only by permission of the judge. Each handler and dog must be within sight of at least one judge at all times. Per judge's instructions, the two lead stewards will set and maintain a pace that the dogs and handlers will follow.

The course may have natural obstacles (bends in the trail, trees, potholes, etc.) that are native to the test area. Each dog will pull the freight loaded and secured during the Freight Load Exercise. As long as the dog works, there is no time limit. If the dog stops

pulling at any point along the test route, the handler has one (1) minute to get the dog moving again. With the judges' permission, a handler may stop the dog at the side of the course to rest briefly. At that time, the judges may allow other dogs in the group to pass. If other situations arise, such as ice balls in paw pads during a winter draft test, the handler must ask permission from the judges to stop and attend to the situation.

With the judges' permission, a handler may touch the draft apparatus in order to lift it over an obstruction such as a curb.

The handler may work in front of, beside, or behind the dog, or any combination of these positions. The handler may not impede the dog's forward movement at any time. This includes stepping in front of a dog to enforce a halt command or stepping in front of a dog who tries to change direction against the handler's command.

b. Principle Parts of the Exercise:

1. Dog hauls a loaded draft apparatus a distance of at least one (1) mile with the handler.
2. Dog must be under the handler's control and remain behind the lead stewards.
3. Dog cooperates with its handler for unhitching from the apparatus.

c. Failing performance:

1. Dog refuses to accompany handler.
2. Dog does not obey commands given by handler.
3. Dog refuses to move the loaded draft apparatus when told to do so (one minute time limit).
4. Dog cannot comfortably or safely move the freight load the full length of the course.
5. **Leash Guidance.**
6. Handler physically handles the dog or apparatus during the exercise without judges' permission.
7. Handler must alter the load on the course.
8. Handler impedes the dog's forward movement by moving in front of the dog to enforce a halt.
9. Excessive **touches** by the dog or handler without judge's permission.
10. Dog, apparatus or handler **Bumps** more than once.
11. Dog or apparatus **Crashes.**
12. Dog bumps lead stewards or overruns and tries to pass lead stewards.
13. Dog passes another team without the judge's permission.
14. Equipment breaks in a manner that could not be anticipated and cannot be repaired by the handler without assistance within 10 minutes.

Section 8. Intriguing Distraction

a. Overview. At some point during the moving exercises (Maneuvering or Distance Freight Haul) one planned visual intriguing distraction occurs near the dog. The

distraction shall be the same for each dog. If an unplanned distraction occurs, the dog will be judged the same as with the planned distraction.

When the distraction appears, the dog may stop what it is doing and/or shift its position to watch but is not allowed to significantly divert from the course it is following or to move the draft apparatus if the apparatus is at that moment stationary. The handler may speak to the dog with instructions concerning the distraction. If the dog has stopped to watch the distraction, the handler is to encourage the dog to proceed with the exercise when appropriate to do so. To give the dog time to respond to the handler's stop command, the dog may move two or three steps toward or away from the distraction. When the distraction has passed the handler is to instruct the dog to continue the exercise it may have stopped.

The distraction is arranged at the discretion of the draft test committee club with the draft test judges having final approval. It should be one that might occur in everyday situations. Possible appropriate distractions are:

- Camera flash
- Stuffed Animal on leash
- Ball/toy being thrown
- Person on a bicycle
- Person waving a flag
- Children running

A steward performs the distraction under direction of the judges. Special emphasis should be placed on making the length and location of the distraction as uniform as possible for each team. Thus the use of live animals as a distraction is discouraged.

b. Principle Parts of the Exercise:

1. An intriguing distraction occurs near the working dog during a moving exercise.
2. The dog may stop and notice the distraction, but may not pursue the distraction.
3. The handler redirects the dog and the dog continues with the exercise.

c. Failing performance:

1. Handler physically touches the dog or apparatus during the exercise without the judges' permission.
2. Dog changes direction and follows the distraction.
3. Handler impedes the dog's forward movement by moving in front of the dog to enforce a halt.
4. Dog flees from the distraction.
5. Dog barks more than a few times or refuses to stop barking when instructed by the handler.
6. Dog refuses to resume the exercise it was performing after the distraction is gone.
7. Dog fails a naturally occurring distraction for above reasons, even if it has passed the planned distraction.
8. Guiding, jerking and/or tight leash.

CHAPTER 7

Exercises for Open Draft Dog, Novice Brace Draft Dog & Open Brace Draft Dog

Section 1. Open Draft Dog

a. Overview. The three main differences between the Novice and open classes are:

- All exercises are conducted off leash
- Any **bumps** will result in failure.
- The Group Stay is conducted with the handler out-of-sight

With these exceptions, all exercises are conducted and graded as in the Novice Draft Dog class. The differences are identified below.

b. Basic Control – Entering and exiting the ring. In the heel exercise, the dog is brought into the ring on leash. Upon positioning for the beginning of the heeling pattern, the leash is removed by the handler and given to the judge. The judge returns the leash to the handler at the conclusion of the Recall exercise and the dog exits the ring on leash.

c. Harness, Hitch, and Equipment Check – Entering and exiting the maneuver area. The dog is brought into the maneuver area on leash. Upon positioning, the leash is removed by the handler and secured in the draft apparatus. Unless needed to help manage an out-of-control dog during the Practical Draft Work portion of the test, the team will leave the maneuver area off-leash.

d. Practical Draft Work – Bumps. Any **Bumps** by the team or apparatus will result in failure.

e. Group Stay

Entering and exiting the maneuver area. The hitched dog is brought into the maneuver area on leash. Upon positioning, the leash is removed by the handler and secured in the draft apparatus. Unless needed to help manage an out-of-control dog during the Freight Haul portion of the test, the team will leash the dog at the conclusion of the test after reentering the maneuver area and receiving an “exercised finished” from the judge.

Out-of-Sight. At the judge’s command, the handler, instead of moving to a position across the maneuver area and in-sight of the dog, leaves the dog and moves to a position outside the maneuver area and out-of-sight of the dog as directed by the judge.

f. Distance Freight Haul – Bumps. Any **Bumps** by the team or apparatus will result in failure.

Section 2. Novice Brace Draft Dog

a. Overview.

All exercises are conducted and graded as in the Novice Draft Dog Class with the obvious exception that the handler will be working with more than one dog in the ring at once. The dogs in the team are to perform the commands together and to work as partners. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device not less than 6 inches in total length but may not have their harnesses connected.

A failing performance for a team follows the same rules as in the Novice Draft Dog Class with the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the team is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team. If one member of the team consistently pulls less than its share, the team is considered to have failed the exercise. Judges should consider ages and sizes of the dogs when judging the team's allocation of work.

Exceptions or notable differences are listed below:

b. Basic Control. For Brace Class entries both dogs must have earned their CDs in order to waive Basic Control.

c. Harnessing, Hitching, and Equipment Check. The handler may work with each dog individually when harnessing and hitching and may instruct the other dog(s) to cooperate appropriately. If used, the coupling device may be connected and unconnected as needed.

d. Practical Draft Work and Basic Commands

Narrows. The adjustable narrows area should be twelve (12) inches wider than the team or apparatus (whichever is wider).

Backing. Both dogs must back together simultaneously. Sequential individual backing will be cause for failure.

e. Freight Load – Load Amounts. The weight specified in Chapter 5, Section 6 must be multiplied by two to determine the appropriate load for the team. The adjusted freight load weight is noted below:

- Travois: 10 to 60 pounds
- Sled or Toboggan: 30 to 100 pounds
- Wheeled Apparatus: 50 to 200 pounds.*

*For teams in which both dogs weigh less than 80 lbs. each, the freight load weight may be the total of 25% of each dog's body weight, rounded up to the nearest pound. For example two 50 lb. dogs would carry 26 lbs of freight. Documentation from a veterinarian (or his staff) certifying the weight of the dogs must accompany the draft test entry. Documentation must include the name of the dog and the name

and phone number of the certifying veterinarian or assistant and must be dated no earlier than 30 days prior to the receipt of entry.

Section 3. Open Brace Draft Dog

All exercises are conducted and graded as in the Draft Dog Class with the obvious exception that the handler will be working with more than one dog in the ring at once with the differences noted in the Novice Brace Dog Class also applying.

CHAPTER 8

Judging

Section 1. Pre-Judging

a. Maneuver Course Diagram. Judges are responsible for designing the maneuver course used in the Practical Draft Work Exercise. The DWC Chair has a generic maneuver course template in MS PowerPoint available upon request. A copy of the maneuver course should be provided to the Draft Test Secretary at least one week prior to the test in order to:

- Ensure the appropriate equipment is on hand for the exercises
- Set up the Maneuver Course prior to the day of the test, if practical
- Produce a Maneuver Course diagram which is either posted at the entrance, produced for each entrant or published in the program (optional)

The final lay out of the Maneuver Course is contingent upon on-site review and approval by the judges. The judges may make changes to either the maneuver course or the freight haul course the day of the test due to variations in terrain, natural obstacles and weather conditions or if the test setup is not safe or will not adequately test a team's abilities.

b. Arrival. Judges should arrive at the draft test site at least one (1) hour prior to the scheduled time for the Equipment Check in order to have time to supervise or confirm the set up of the Maneuvering Course and check the Freight Haul route.

c. Equipment Check and Walk Through. See Chapter 4.

Section 2. Evaluations

a. In-Test Evaluations. During the draft test, the judges will inform entrants if they pass or fail at the completion of each series of exercises as follows:

- Basic Control
- Maneuvering Course
- Group Freight Haul

b. Post Test Assembly. Upon completion of the draft test, Judges should assemble all entrants to provide an after-action-review of the test and commemorate any qualifiers.

c. Judge's Score Sheets. Each judge will complete a written evaluation on each team's performance – a Draft Test Score Sheet. Upon completion of the draft test, the judge will sign the score sheets and give them to the Draft Test Secretary who will be making copies for the GSMDCA DWC chair and any entrant who requests them.

d. Judges' Report. The judges will complete and sign a Draft Test Report Worksheet which provides a summary of the test results and give it to the Draft Test Secretary who will send it to the GSMDCA DWC Chair along with all other draft test documentation. Judges are also encouraged to elaborate on any aspect of the test which might be informative or helpful to either the Draft Test Committee or the GSMDCA DWC.

Section 3. Judges' Authority and Compartment

a. Judges' Authority. The judges shall reach a mutual decision regarding the passing or failing performance of each team and must both mark the teams with a passing performance in all of the exercises in the class entered in order for them to qualify. The judges will not score the teams for points. The judges' decisions are final in all matters affecting the scoring and working ability of the dogs and their handlers. The judges have absolute control and unquestioned authority over all persons and dogs within the test area (the ring and the freight haul route) and are in sole charge of the draft test areas until their judging assignment is complete.

b. Judges Compartment. Judges must act in a professional, impartial, and pleasant manner. Draft Test judges in attendance at a GSMDCA Draft Test, whether judging, exhibiting, working, or as a spectator, shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner as befits every official representative of the GSMDCA.

c. Familiarity with Regulations. The judges are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations, the AKC Obedience Regulations and Obedience Judges Guidelines, AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows, and AKC's Dealing with Misconduct. All judging matters and situations not clearly covered in the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations shall be resolved by reference to the AKC Obedience Regulations and Obedience Judges Guidelines, AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows, and AKC's Dealing with Misconduct.

Section 4. Judging Guidelines

a. Standardized Judging. Standardized judging is of great importance. Judges are not permitted to vary the exercises, but it is recognized that Draft Tests occur on natural terrain and may require minimal adaptation to fit the site. In no case, however, should the judges vary the exercises or to add, delete, or change any requirements stated in the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations. Every exercise, pattern, or course must be the same for each entry in a class. The judges must evaluate every team on an equal and uniform basis for each exercise.

b. Enthusiasm and Teamwork Each dog shall be judged for control, willingness, ability, and enthusiasm and each team will be judged on naturalness, smoothness, and cooperation in their performance.

c. Catalog Order. The dogs shall be judged in catalog order if it is practical to do so without holding up judging. Judges are not required to wait for dogs for either the individual or group exercises. Each handler is responsible for being ready at ringside when required without being called. The judges' first consideration should be for the convenience of those exhibitors who are ready when scheduled and ask no favors. Conflicts: If a request is made in advance of the class starting time, the judges may agree to judge a dog earlier or later than the time scheduled by catalog order. If no arrangement has been made, however, the judges should not hesitate to mark absent any dog and handler not ready to be judged in catalog order.

d. Judging Sequence. Attempting to maintain as similar climatic conditions as possible, all entries should complete each set of exercises proceeding to the next (i.e. all applicable teams finish the Basic Control exercises before Practical Draft Work and all teams complete the Practical Draft work exercises before proceeding to Group Stay/Distance Freight Haul).

e. Group Exercises. A maximum of eight (8) teams may be judged together in the Group exercises. Group Exercises include the Group Stays and the Freight Haul.

Section 5. Qualifications of Judges

a. GSMDCA Member Judges. There shall be two judges chosen to judge a Draft Test. Draft Test judges should thoroughly understand draft work and the physical conditioning necessary for draft and other types of pulling.

An approved list of GSMDCA member judges is available from the Draft Work Committee Chair or on the GSMDCA website (www.GSMDCA.org).

b. Applying. GSMDCA members may apply to the GSMDCA Board through the Draft Work Committee to become a Draft judge after fulfilling all of the following requirements:

1. Trained and worked in Draft Work
2. Handled a dog when obtaining a GSMDCA Draft Dog (DD) title on one or more dogs
3. Acted as either a Draft Test Chair or Draft Test Secretary at a GSMDCA draft test. Or acted as a steward at a minimum of four draft tests (includes BMD and ND Tests)
4. Thoroughly understands the GSMDCA Draft Regulations and applicable AKC Obedience Regulations and AKC Obedience Judges Guidelines
5. Apprentice judged at two Draft Tests (preferably under four different judges). This includes ND and BMD Draft Tests. See paragraph c for further details regarding this requirement

GSMDCA members in good standing who are interested in becoming a GSMDCA Draft Judge should send an application to the GSMDCA DWC Chair for DWC evaluation and shall include two parts:

1. A written application containing:
 - a) Name
 - b) Address
 - c) Telephone number
 - d) Email address, if any
 - e) A list of draft titles earned by the applicant, to include the date and the club or regulations under which they were earned, i.e. GSMDCA, Newfoundland Club of America or Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America.
 - f) A summary of the applicant's draft experience, e.g. chair; secretary; steward; conducting workshops, seminars or classes; etc. to include dates, host clubs and other relevant information
 - g) A summary of the applicant's Apprentice Judging experience, to include dates, host club, names of mentor judges
 - h) A list of obedience titles earned by the applicant, to include the date and registry
 - i) A summary of obedience experience in addition to titles earned
 - i) A summary of other experience relevant to draft judging skills

2. A separate sheet, requiring signature and date, with the following statement:

"I understand and will respect, uphold, and be subject to the requirements of the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations."

These signed documents shall be kept on file by the DWC for all Draft Judges.

The DWC Chairperson shall send immediate acknowledgement of receipt of the application. Within four (4) weeks after receipt the DWC Chairperson shall notify the applicant, in writing, either of approval or of the need for further preparation and reapplication.

c. Apprentice Judging. An Apprentice Judge must:

1. Complete at least two Apprentice assignments at GSMDCA, BMDCA or NCA Draft Tests (preferably under four different judges). The Apprentice is responsible for arranging this assignment with both the mentor judges and the host club, and obtaining approval of said assignment from the Draft Work Committee Chairperson. All expenses of this Apprentice assignment are the responsibility of the Apprentice Judge.

Upon approval of the apprenticeship, the DWC Chair will send an Apprentice Judging Evaluation form to the mentor judges to be completed and returned to the DWC Chair following the draft test. As the judging schedule allows, the Apprentice shall evaluate and discuss each team with the Approved Judges, as well as observe and discuss all other aspects of judging a Draft Test; to include

Maneuvering and Freight Haul course layouts, Equipment Checks, briefings, course walk throughs, and paperwork.

2. Design and submit a Practical Draft Work maneuver course layout to the judges, at least two weeks prior to the test, for evaluation and discussion. A MS PowerPoint template for diagramming the course is available from the DWC Chair.
3. Observe the judging of a minimum of three (3) Novice and one (1) Open team at each test. Multiple Apprentice assignments may be necessary to meet this requirement. The Apprentice will complete his or her Judge's Score sheet on each team and submit them with the mentor judges' score sheets at test's end.
4. If conditions and schedules permit, Apprentice Judges are encouraged to call a maneuvering pattern and prepare a separate score sheet for one or more teams during non-judging hours. The Judges shall evaluate the Apprentice's performance and include their observations in their reports. Similar practice judging is encouraged at Draft Matches. If an approved GSMDCA Draft Judge is present and observing, they are requested to send an evaluation of the Apprentice's performance to the DWC Chairperson.
5. Receive positive evaluations, from both judges, of the Apprentice's knowledge, attitude, focus, ring presence, communication skills, organization, efficiency, and physical ability to judge. Their evaluation shall also include the Apprentice's maneuvering course layout and their critique thereof. Evaluations shall be kept on file with the DWC Chairperson and applicants may request copies of their own evaluations. The judges shall send their evaluations to the DWC Chairperson within ten (10) days of the Draft Test.
6. Within four (4) weeks of completion of the Apprentice requirements, the DWC Chairperson shall notify the Apprentice Judge, in writing, of approval of the assignment as meeting the requirements for Apprentice judging or detailing the reasons why it did not fulfill the requirements.

d. Continuing Education. GSMDCA member Draft Judges are required, every two years, to take an open book test provided by the GSMDCA Draft Committee on the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations, AKC Obedience Regulations, and the AKC Obedience Judges Guidelines (described above in Section 4). Failure to complete the test or scoring less than 80% of the questions answered correctly will result in revocation of GSMDCA member judging privileges.

e. Termination of Membership. Termination of GSMDCA membership in good standing for any reason will result in revocation of GSMDCA member judging privileges. Lapsed judges must redo the application process.

f. Non GSMDCA Member Judges. Until there are a suitable number of GSMDCA Member Judges, current Mentor, Partner or Provisional Newfoundland Dog (ND) and Approved and Provisional Bernese Mountain Dog (BMD) judges may judge at GSMD

Draft Tests upon approval of the DWC chair. Prior to the Draft Test, these judges must familiarize themselves with the GSMD Draft Test Regulations.

CHAPTER 9

Draft Test Administration

Section 1. The Draft Test Committee

a. Official GSMDCA Representatives. The Draft Test Committee shall act as official representatives of the GSMDCA and must see to the enforcement of these Draft Test Regulations. Any violations of these Draft Test Regulations must be reported by the Draft Test Committee to the DWC in writing and included with the Draft Test Report. Failure of the Draft Test Committee to follow these regulations could result in any member of the committee being banned from running future tests.

b. Draft Test Committee Members. The Draft Test Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) people, one of whom shall be named Chairman. The Draft Test Committee Chairman and Draft Test Secretary must be members in good standing of the GSMDCA.

1. Draft Test Chairperson. Responsible for all aspects of the draft test so that it runs efficiently according to these and other applicable regulations.
2. Draft Test Secretary. The Draft Test Secretary is responsible for the administrative aspects of the draft test. Specific responsibilities include:
 - a) Preparing the Premium List.
 - b) Receiving and confirming entries.
 - c) Preparing and distributing the Program.
 - d) Preparing the Catalog.
 - e) Procuring and maintaining on hand during the draft test the following documentation and regulations:
 - 1) The GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations.
 - 2) American Kennel Club Dog Show Rules and Regulations.
 - 3) American Kennel Club Obedience Regulations.
 - 4) The Constitution and By-laws of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America.
 - 5) The complete entry forms of each exhibitor.
 - f) Consolidating and sending the Draft Test Report (Section 7.b) to the DWC.
 - g) Upon request of the owner or handler, copying and sending to him that team's Draft Judges Worksheets.
3. Draft Test Member. Responsible for miscellaneous duties designated by the Draft Test Chair.

c. Other Key Personnel.

1. Stewards. See Section 6.

2. **Veterinarian:** The services of a veterinarian must be available during a Draft Test. The veterinarian should be present at the Draft Test or within a short drive. If not present, the office location should be printed in the catalog. The Draft Test Regulations have been devised to present a minimum hazard to dogs and handlers but Draft Test Committees are urged to take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of all involved.
3. **Safety Officer:** A Safety Officer will be appointed and is responsible for insuring that all un-entered dogs are kept on-lead or crated and outside and away from the main test area. The Safety Officer may be a member of the Test Committee provided he or she has no other specific responsibilities during the test.

d. Notification of Changes. If the Draft Test Committee is informed at any time prior to the opening of its Draft Test that an advertised judge will not fulfill his/her engagement to judge, then the Draft Test Committee shall substitute a judge. The substitute judge must be approved by the DWC Chairman who shall be notified either by telephone or by mail. The same shall apply to emergency changes of site or Draft Test officials. If the request is made by telephone, a letter or e-mail to the Draft Work Committee Chairman must follow with a full explanation. The Draft Work Committee Chairman must then notify the rest of the Draft Work Committee of the changes and the reasons they were requested.

Section 2. Application to Hold a Draft Test

a. GSMDCA Approval. Written approval of the GSMDCA Draft Work Committee (DWC) must be obtained to hold a Draft Test at which dogs earn GSMDCA Draft Titles.

b. Time of Application. Application to hold a Draft Test must be made at least four (4) months but preferably at least six (6) months prior to the date of the proposed Draft Test and must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped postcard if the application does not include an e-mail address for responding. The DWC Chairman will respond via e-mail or return the postcard upon receipt of the application. Approval or rejection of the Draft Test Application by the DWC will be communicated to the Draft Test Chairman by the DWC Chairman within thirty (30) days of receipt of the completed application.

c. Application. Application forms to sponsor a Draft Test are available from the DWC Chairman or on the GSMDCA Web Site. Completed applications shall be sent to the DWC Chairman and must include:

1. Name of the Draft Test sponsoring club or individuals.
2. The date of the proposed Draft Test.
3. The name and address of the selected site.
4. Name and address of the two (2) judges and if not GSMDCA member judges, their qualifications for judging a GSMDCA approved test (i.e. Newfoundland Dog or Bernese Mountain Dog judges – see 8.5.f).

5. Name, address, phone number and e-mail of the Draft Test Chairman and the Draft Test Secretary.
6. Names of additional Draft Test Committee members.
7. The certification that all GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations will be followed.
8. The guarantee that all equipment, personnel, and other required provisions will be available at the Draft Test site.
9. The signatures of the Draft Test Chairman and the Draft Test Secretary.
10. A detailed map and description of the selected Draft Test site including the one-mile distance freight haul course.
11. A \$35.00 administrative fee payable by check to the TREASURER, GSMDCA.

d. Forms. The DWC will provide at the time of Draft Test approval:

1. Entry Form. An AKC-type entry form which includes a section for the entry's signature. It must be included in the Premium List.
2. Judging Worksheets. To be filled out by each judge evaluating each team's performance and given to the handler at the conclusion of judging.
3. Judges Report. A single-paged table of all the entries, indicating passes and failures by each exercise. Signed by both judges and the Draft Test Secretary on the day of the draft test, and returned to the DWC as part of the Draft Test Report as per Section 7.
4. The Draft Apparatus Worksheet. Used by the judges to record the equipment used by each team as well as to record the widest portion of the apparatus for use by the Narrows Steward for computing the width of the Narrow Passageway for each team.

Section 3. Entries

a. Entry Limitations. Maximum entries to be judged are fifteen (15). The Draft Test Committee may further limit entries if stated in the Premium List. The Draft Test Committee also may set limits for each class if stated in the Premium List. The Draft Test Secretary must accept all entries received prior to the closing date.

b. Entry Confirmation. Handlers shall be notified no later than 10 days prior to the test date confirming their entry has been accepted. Confirmation should be in the form of a Program (Section 4), which may be e-mailed if the entry provided a valid e-mail address. For those entries without an e-mail address, the confirmation must be mailed.

c. Alternate Lists. In the event more than fifteen (15) entries are received, a random drawing shall be held within 48 hours after the closing date to determine which entries shall participate in the Draft Test. GSMDs shall be given preference over other breeds. Priority will be given to entries that have not earned titles in the class entered.

When the advertised limit has been drawn, all remaining entries, subject to the same preferences, shall be assigned a position on an Alternate List corresponding to the order in which they were drawn.

If the entry limit is not reached in one class the extra slots may be assigned to the other class in order to maximize entries.

The Draft Test Secretary shall immediately notify all entries of the results of the draw and that entry's position on the Alternate list. Alternates may attend and compete (based upon their position on the alternate list) if a team does not attend or is unable to compete, thereby leaving an entry slot empty. Entrants who learn they will be unable to attend a draft test should contact the test secretary immediately in order that exhibitors on the Alternate List may be selected.

d. Move Ups. Move ups are permitted in back-to-back day tests or closely scheduled tests when a team, originally entered in the Novice class, passes the earlier test in Novice and desires to "move up" to the Open class in the subsequent test.

A dog may be moved up from one individual class to another individual class or from one brace class to another brace class, but not between individual and brace classes.

The Draft Test Secretary must be notified of the Move-Up no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the Equipment Check. The handler must present a test catalog to the Draft Test Secretary. The Draft Test Secretary marks, signs, and dates the Move-Up in the catalog and on the original entry form, and gives the catalog back to the handler.

The Draft Test Secretary shall make written note of the Move-Up in the Catalog and include it in the Draft Test Secretary's Report.

The Move-Up team shall be entered at the end of the catalog order in the class in which it has moved up.

e. Prizes. Test sponsors are encouraged to offer ribbons and/or trophies for passing teams. Funding for all ribbons and trophies will be provided by the club hosting event and may be supplemented by the Draft Test Committee and donations from club members, at the committee's discretion.

Section 4. Premium List, Program and Catalog

a. Premium List. The Premium List contains all the necessary information an individual needs in order to enter the draft test. It must be completed and submitted for approval to the DWC Chair at least two (2) months prior to the draft test. Failure to complete a Premium List will result in the cancellation of the draft test by the DWC Chair. The DWC Chair has an electronic version of a template available upon request.

Once approved it may also be sent to GSMDCA web site master in order to be listed on the GSMDCA web site and distributed in response to specific requests.

The Premium List shall contain the following (*Optional):

1. The statement "Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America Draft Test"
2. Name of Test-giving club (if applicable)
3. Date, time, and location of the Draft Test
4. Entry fee
5. The officers and board of directors of test-giving club, including the address of the club's secretary (if applicable)
6. The Draft Test Committee, including address, phone number, and email for the Test Chair and Secretary
7. Names and addresses of the judges
8. Name, address, and telephone number of the Draft Test veterinarian
9. List of classes offered
10. The Test Limit and any Class Limits
11. Closing date and time followed by the statement, "after which time entries cannot be accepted, cancelled or altered, except as specifically allowed in these Draft Test Regulations."
12. Description of awards or prizes, if any.
13. The statement: "Entrants are responsible for obtaining the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations and being familiar with them. Regulations may be downloaded from www.GSMDCA.org at no charge.
14. Age of dog limits (e.g. "Entered dogs must be 18 months years or older on the day of the Draft Test (date of birth on or before <18 months prior to test date>").
15. *Local Accommodation Information.
16. *Information regarding any Draft Judges' Dinner (if applicable)
17. *Information regarding any Catalog Advertising (if applicable)
18. A GSMDCA Draft Test entry form (provide by the DWC Chair) which includes the following information:
 - a) Name of the Test-giving club
 - b) Test Date
 - c) Closing Date and time followed by the statement, "after which time entries cannot be accepted, cancelled or altered, except as specifically allowed in these Draft Test Regulations"
 - d) Address where entries shall be mailed
 - e) Breed
 - f) Sex
 - g) Name of class entered and place for indicating whether dog already has title offered in entered class.
 - h) Full/Registered Name of Dog
 - i) One of the following:
 - AKC, UKC, or CKC registration number
 - or ILP number

- or any other foreign registration number
- j) Date of dog's Birth
- k) Place of dog's birth
- l) Name of breeder(s)
- m) Name of sire
- n) Name of Dam
- o) Name, address, telephone number, and email address of owner(s)/co-owner(s)
- p) Name of Owner(s) agent, if any
- q) The following statements:

AGREEMENT

I understand that the club holding this event has the right to refuse this entry. I agree that I am solely responsible for the actions of myself and the dog ("the dog") that accompanies me in relationship to this entry. In consideration of the acceptance of my entry and the opportunity to participate in this event, I agree to **HOLD HARMLESS and INDEMNIFY** the following listed parties from any claim for loss, damage or injury alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly by my actions or by the actions of the dog in relationship to this event: the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America (GSMDCA) and the event-giving club or group of individuals, their members, officers, and agents; the owner and/or lessor of the premises; any provider of services at this event; any employees or volunteers of the parties listed here, and any Draft Judge judging at this event. I personally assume **all responsibility and liability** for any such claim. I agree to be responsible for any loss and expense (including legal fees) incurred by any of the listed parties based on claims related in any way to my participation or the actions of the dog in relationship to this event, whether the claims are made by third parties or by myself.

Additionally, I agree to assume the sole responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury (including death) to myself or to the dog in relationship to this event. I agree to **RELEASE, INDEMNIFY and promise not to sue** the parties listed above for any such loss, damage or injury to myself or the dog, regardless of the cause, and whether or not the loss, damage or injury may have been caused by the negligence of the listed parties.

I AGREE THAT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE ENTRY, EXHIBITION OR ATTENDANCE AT THE EVENT SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO ARBITRATION ALL APPLICABLE GSMDCA BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES MUST FIRST BE FOLLOWED AS SET FORTH IN THE GSMDCA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.

In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I agree to abide by rules and regulations of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America (GSMDCA) in effect at the time of this GSMDCA Draft Test and by any additional rules appearing in the premium list for this event. I certify and represent that the dog entered is not a hazard to persons or other dogs. This entry is submitted for acceptance on the foregoing representation and Agreement. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with all such Rules and Regulations (including all provisions applying to discipline) and to abide by any decisions made in accord with them.

Name of Participant:
 Signature:
 Date:

b. Judging Program (Program). The Program is emailed or postal mailed (as applicable) in advance to the entrants. It serves as confirmation of an entry and provides information regarding directions to the test site, specific starting times and any

other necessary information. It must either be e-mailed or postal mailed no later than 10 days prior to the draft test. The Program may be combined with the Catalog into one document.

The Program shall contain the following (*If applicable):

1. The statement "Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America Draft Test"
2. Name of Test-giving club (if applicable)
2. Date of the Draft Test
3. Time of the Equipment Check, time of Walk Through and time judging begins.
4. Location of the test including directions.
5. Draft Test Committee, including address, phone number, and email for the Test Chair and Secretary
6. The officers and board of directors of test-giving club, including the address of the club's secretary (if applicable)
7. Name, address, and telephone number of the Draft Test veterinarian
8. Identification of the entry's catalog number, number of entries, and all catalog numbers
9. *Local accommodation information.
10. *Dates, times and location of any Draft Judges' Dinner (if applicable)

b. Catalog. The catalog provides specific information regarding all entries as well as the tentative order of entries. The DWC Chair has an electronic version of a template available upon request.

Distribution of the Catalogs:

1. Two (2) marked Catalogs to be included in the Draft Test Report for the DWC Chair.
2. One (1) marked Catalog for each of the two (2) Draft Test Judges.
3. One (1) Catalog for each of the Draft Test Committee Members.
4. One (1) Catalog for each Exhibitor
5. The remainder of the Catalogs may be available for sale to the public

The catalog shall be distributed the day of the show. It may also be mailed or e-mailed to each exhibitor prior to the show. In this case, it may also serve as the Judging Program and has the same distribution timelines. (It must either be e-mailed or postal mailed no later than 10 days prior to the draft test.)

Catalog Order. While the judges reserve the right to modify the exact order of judging, catalog order is the published order of entries. Draft Test Secretaries will use the following priorities as guidelines when determining catalog order (keeping in mind the stipulations of Section 3.c Entries):

1. By Class (Open vs. Novice). Although there is no requirement as to which class goes first, usually the Open classes (both Individual and Brace) are scheduled before Novice.
2. Multiple entries with the same handler. Splitting the entries with the same handler so that one dog is closer to the front and the other to the back helps preclude instances where the teams must employ a second handler for the group exercises.
3. Date Received. In instance where two entries arrive on the same day, use the postmarked date.

The Catalog will consist of the all the information included in the judging program as well as the following information regarding each entry (in an assigned numeric order): (* indicates optional information)

1. Name of Class
2. Full/Registered Name of Dog (if applicable)
3. Call Name
4. Breed
5. Name, address, telephone number, and email address of owner(s)/co-owner(s)
6. Name of Owner(s) agent, if any
7. An indication of which dogs are eligible to waive the Basic Control Exercise (if any)
8. Sex
- *9. One of the following:
 - AKC, UKC, or CKC registration number
 - or ILP number
 - or any other foreign registration number
- *10. Date of dog's Birth
- *11. Place of dog's Birth
- *12. Name of breeder(s)
- *13. Name of sire
- *14. Name of dam

The catalog may contain optional information regarding the basics and purpose of the draft tests and advertising.

Section 5. Draft Test Site and Equipment

a. Draft Test Site. The draft test site consists of three general areas:

1. Basic Control Ring: The ring for the Basic Control exercise shall be rectangular and a minimum of forty by fifty feet (40' by 50'). This ring shall be defined by ring gates or ropes and stakes. The ring entrance shall be a minimum of six (6) feet wide. Only members of the Draft Test Committee, Judges and Stewards shall have unlimited

access to this area. Handlers and dogs are permitted in the area only when they are called for testing.

2. Maneuver Course Area. This is the area in which the Harness and Hitch and Practical Draft Work exercises occur. The maneuver course area shall be level and be a minimum of 10,000 square feet. The area may incorporate existing manmade (e.g. fences) and natural (e.g. trees and shrubs) features as part of the maneuver course. As long as access to the area is limited and the area is defined by ring gates, ropes, fencing or other barriers, it is not necessary to fence off the entire area as with the Basic Control ring. The entrance to the area should be clearly marked and if an opening between gates, the entrance should be at least six (6) feet or 12 inches greater than the widest portion of the widest team in the test, whichever is greater.

The exercise locations within the Maneuvering Course shall be clearly defined with markers and may include signage directing handlers through the course as in an AKC Rally Obedience or Agility course.

3. Freight Haul Course. The one-mile Distance Freight Haul Course must be clearly marked and should include as many natural features as possible. At the judges' discretion, un-entered spectators and dogs on leashes may be permitted to follow the last entrant on the freight haul course but are not permitted in other testing areas.

b. Equipment and Supplies. Those sponsoring the Draft Test will provide:

1. The following documentation and regulations:
 - a. The GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations.
 - b. American Kennel Club Dog Show Rules and Regulations.
 - c. American Kennel Club Obedience Regulations.
 - d. The Constitution and By-laws of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America.
 - e. The complete entry forms of each exhibitor.
 - f. Judging Worksheets. At least two copies for each team – one for each judge – and a set for any apprentice judge.
 - g. Judges Report.
 - h. The Draft Apparatus Worksheet.
2. Ropes and stakes or ring gates necessary to define the ring for the Basic Control exercise with minimum dimensions of forty by fifty feet (40' x 50').
3. Ribbons or a minimum of four (4) markers to define the maneuvering course. The markers should be large enough to be clearly visible to both handlers and spectators.
4. A removable obstacle, ideally an object which might be found in everyday carting situations (i.e. gates, saw horses, logs, branches, and highway construction cones).
5. A minimum of two (2) markers to define a narrow area. The markers must be no less than two (2) feet high, with a recommended height of three (3) to four (4) feet, and must be six feet in length.

7. A minimum of four (4) markers to define the 360 degree left and right turns and 90 degree left and right turns (note: natural preexisting markers such as trees may be used).
6. A tape measure at least six (6) feet in length.
7. A three-foot stick or dowel for measuring the backing exercises.
8. One visual distraction.
9. A stop watch or watch to time stays.
10. Markers for the Distance Freight Haul course.
11. A method (e.g. numbers, signs or decorations) of identifying the specific exercises within the maneuver area.
11. Catalog numbers for carts (Numbers for Exhibitors are optional).
12. A catalog identifying each entered dog as in an AKC show catalog.
13. A scale for verifying freight loads if necessary.
14. First aid equipment and a vehicle large enough to carry a dog and handler.
15. An item (e.g. a blanket or quilt) for the load/unload exercise.

Recommended:

1. A chart by which spectators may be silently informed as each team passes or fails each exercise.
2. A diagram of the maneuvering course either clearly posted at ringside, shown in the catalog or separately provided to the exhibitors and spectators.

Section 6. Stewards.

a. Chief Steward. The host Draft Test committee shall select a person to act as the Chief Steward. The Chief Steward will select the stewards for the Draft Test and, under the supervision of the judges, shall instruct these stewards as to their duties.

b. Number of Stewards. A minimum of five stewards shall be provided to assist the judges in the ring work.

These will be:

1. One Gate Steward
2. One Visual Distraction Steward
3. One Load Steward
4. One Unload Steward
5. One steward (preferably two) to measure and set the Narrow Passageway. This steward may also serve as the Distraction, Load Pick Up, or Load Drop steward, as the Narrow Passageway work is performed in between ring performances.

The presence of extra stewards is advised so as to provide the working stewards with relief. The relief stewards must understand their assignments thoroughly so that when they step in minimal changes in experience are imposed on the handler and dog, as every exercise must be the same for each entry in a class.

The Chief Steward shall provide a sufficient number of stewards to assist on the Freight Haul. There should be one steward per team.

c. Stewards' Responsibilities. Stewards assist the judges and they may act only on the judges' instructions. Stewards must not give information or instructions to owners and entrants except as specifically instructed by a judge and then only in such a manner that it is clear that the instructions are those of a judge. The stewards shall refrain from coaching the exhibitors or commenting on the performance of the exhibitors and/or their dogs. Any harassment of stewards must be reported immediately to the judges.

The success of a Draft Test depends, in part, on the efficiency of the stewards. The stewards must, therefore, present themselves for duty on time and perform their duties in an efficient and timely manner. The stewards should be familiar with the GSMDCA Draft Test Regulations.

1. Equipment Check: Stewards may be assigned by the Chief Steward to assist the judges in the Equipment Check and must be supervised by the judges. The stewards may record the figures on the Data Worksheet for the judges, but they may not make the measurements or read the measurements of the cart or team width.
2. Gate Steward: The Gate Steward shall be responsible for:
 - a) Assisting the Draft Test Secretary with the Check-In of the exhibitors and to distribute the armbands & rubber bands (if used) and cart numbers & clips with which to attach the numbers to the rigs.
 - b) Ensuring that the next dog to be judged is immediately available when the judges indicate that they are ready. Dogs must be judged in catalog order, unless a change in the order to accommodate a conflict has been arranged with the judges prior to the start of judging. If the team listed next in the catalog is not at ringside when needed, the Gate Steward should not hesitate to call the next team in order. The Gate Steward is not required to seek out handlers. Handlers are responsible for being ready when their dogs' numbers are called. The Gate Steward should report any absence to the judges, and the judges will decide when the team is to be marked absent.
 - c) Harness and Rig Placement: The Gate Steward shall bring the harness and rig into the maneuver area and place it at an area designated by the judges as the Harness and Hitch area.
 - d) Pass/Fail Chart: The Gate Steward shall assist the Draft Test Secretary in marking the Pass/Fail Chart so that the handlers and spectators are silently informed whether a team has passed or failed each exercise.
3. Visual Distraction Steward: The Visual Distraction Steward will be assigned a place outside the maneuver area from which the visual distraction is to be performed. The judges will instruct the steward as to how to present the distraction, which shall occur approximately ten (10) feet from the working dog as it approaches. The distraction shall not last over three (3) seconds.

4. Load Steward: The steward will be instructed by the judges upon how to perform the duty of the Load Steward. The steward will be seated outside or on the edge of the maneuver area at a place assigned by the judges. The judges will direct the team to proceed to the loading location and halt for loading. The handler will **halt** the dog and command the dog to **wait**. Upon the handler's indication of readiness, the Steward will stand and approach with the load, greeting the handler verbally and shaking the handler's hand. The Steward will then hand the load to the handler who secures the load in the Apparatus. The Steward will remain in place, returning to his or her original position after the team moves on to the next station.
5. Unload Steward: The job of the Unload Steward is similar to that of the Load Steward except this steward will pet the dog. The steward will be seated outside or on the edge of the maneuver area at a place assigned by the judges. The judges will direct the team to proceed to the unloading location and halt for unloading. The handler will **halt** the dog and command the dog to **wait**. Upon the handler's indication of readiness, the steward will stand and approach, greeting the handler verbally and asking to pet the dog. Upon the handler's acknowledgement, the Steward will pet the dog once on the head. The Steward will then ask for the load. The handler will unsecure the load and hand it to the Steward. The Steward will remain in place, returning to his or her original position after the team moves on to the next station.
6. Narrow Passageway Steward(s): This job can be done by one steward, but is easier if done by two stewards. The steward shall obtain the Draft Apparatus Worksheet completed during the Equipment Check which lists the width of the widest portion of each apparatus/team and contains the narrow passageway width (by adding twelve (12) inches that measurement). Before each team begins the Harness and Hitch exercise, the steward(s) will set the narrow passageway to the specified width. The narrow passageway shall be measured both at the top and at the bottom and at both ends of the passageway and secured accordingly. The Draft Apparatus Worksheet shall be returned to the Draft Test Secretary at the end of the test for inclusion with other post-test paperwork.
7. Freight Haul Stewards:
 - a) Team Steward. The Chief Steward shall provide each team with a steward for the Freight Haul. The steward should remain a discrete distance from its assigned team (usually to the rear) so as to not disturb it. The steward's primary responsibility is to look out for the safety of its assigned team. Except in the case of emergency, the steward may assist the teams only if requested to do so by the handlers or the judges. Unless specifically directed by the judge, the steward does not serve an evaluative function. Team Stewards may also serve as Road Guards or other temporary safety functions.
 - b) Lead Steward. The Lead Steward (preferably two) leads the freight haul. He or she should be thoroughly familiar with the freight haul route. The pace of the Lead Steward should be moderate and can be modified at the judges' discretion. No team is allowed to pass the Lead Steward.

Section 7. Post-Test Responsibilities

a. Post Test Assembly. Upon completion of the draft test, the Judges should assemble all entrants to provide a high level after-action-review of the test and commemorate any qualifiers.

b. Draft Test Report. The Draft Test Secretary shall be responsible for sending the Draft Test Report materials to the Draft Work Committee Chairperson within ten (10) days following the Draft Test. These include:

1. Signed Judges' Reports.
2. Signed Judges' Worksheets.
3. Draft Apparatus Worksheet
3. Two (2) marked catalogs.
4. Reports on Test violations, excusing of a dog or team, etc.
5. All completed entry forms.
6. Diagram of the Maneuvering Course
7. Description of the Freight Haul Course and Map, if different from that submitted with the Draft Test Application.

c. Entrants' Judges' Worksheets. Upon request of the owner or handler, copying and sending to him that team's Draft Judges Worksheets.