

## 5.3 Junior

### 5.3.1 Drop Retrieve

**Purpose:** To demonstrate the dogs ability to be directed to retrieve an unfamiliar article from the water and return it to its' handler.

**Desired Performance:** The dog and handler remain quietly on shore while a Steward places the retrieve article in the water on the seaward side of the boat at a distance which will require the dog to swim a minimum of 10 metres. The Steward will quietly leave the area. On the Judges' direction, the handler will send the dog to retrieve the article and return it to the handler. The article should be returned to hand. The Judge will indicate completion of the exercise.

**Time Limit:** 1 minute from the direction "Send your dog" (refer to section 2.15) This time limit refers to a 10 meter swim.

**Scoring:** 5 points for entering to the water  
5 points for swimming directly to the article  
10 points for retrieving the article  
10 points for returning to the shore with the article  
5 points for delivering the article directly to hand

**Total points:** 35

**Penalties will be applied for:**

- Lack of control
- Anticipation
- Restraining the dog after the direction "are you ready?"
- Hesitation in entering the water
- Physical correction of the dog
- Not swimming directly to the article
- Not retrieving the article
- Not returning directly to the handler
- Dropping the article on shore or in the water
- Not delivering the article to hand
- Not releasing the article when instructed
- Not leaving the water when instructed
- Handler entering the water

**Failure:** Exceeding the time limit if the dog ceases to continue to work. Providing the dog is still working, exceeding the time limit is to be penalised by 1 point for every 10 seconds over time.

**Judge/Steward:** Directions to be "Are you ready?" "Send your dog", "Exercise finished"

The retrieve article should be selected by the Judge on the day (from the equipment provided by the Club) from a life ring / buoy, Life jacket / buoyancy aid or a boat bumper / cushion having regard to the conditions in the test area. The same type of article is to be used for each dog.

In placing the article in the water, the potential for drift should be taken into account. Judge and Steward should confer. **Where drift or other factors occur, the Judge shall exercise discretion in assessing performance, especially in relation to time limits.**

### 5.3.2 Swim to Handler in Boat and Tow Boat to Shore

**Purpose:** To demonstrate the dogs' ability to respond to the handlers' commands and to demonstrate the dogs' ability to tow a boat to shore without endangering itself, the boat or its occupants.

**Desired Performance:** The dog will remain quietly on shore with a Steward, while the handler is rowed out far enough to require the dog to swim a minimum of 10 metres. On the Judges direction, the handler will call the

dog to the boat. When the dog reaches the boat the handler will give the mouthpiece to the dog, which will then tow the boat directly back to shore. The dog will tow the boat close enough to shore that the Handler can step out safely in less than knee deep water. The dog will exit the water holding the mouthpiece and allow a **Steward** to take hold of the rope. The handler will command the dog to release the rope. The Judge shall indicate that the exercise is complete when the handler and the dog are safely back on shore together.

**Time Limit:** 2 minutes from the direction “Call your dog” (refer to section 2.15). The time limit refers to a 10 meter swim.

**Scoring:** 5 points for entering to the water  
5 points for swimming directly to the boat  
10 points for taking the mouthpiece  
15 points for towing the boat safely to the shore using the mouthpiece  
5 points for exiting the water holding the mouthpiece

**Total points:** 40

**Penalties will be applied for:**

- Lack of control
- Anticipation
- Hesitation in entering the water when commanded to do so
- Not swimming directly to the boat
- Not taking the mouthpiece in the mouth
- Attempting to enter the boat
- Attempting to grab the boat
- Dropping the mouthpiece on water or on land
- Not towing the boat directly to shore
- Not towing the boat close enough to shore for the handler to leave the boat safely
- Physical correction
- Not leaving the water when instructed

**Failure:** Exceeding the time limit if the dog ceases to continue to work. Providing the dog is still working, exceeding the time limit is to be penalised by 1 point for every 10 seconds over time

The dog not towing the boat solely by holding the mouthpiece in its mouth. i.e. having the rope attached to collar or harness or a yoke dropped over the dogs' head is not permitted.

**Permitted actions:** Handlers may attract the dogs' attention to the mouthpiece.

The dog may take the mouthpiece either from the handler, or the handler may drop the mouthpiece in the water for the dog to take in its mouth.

The rope may be attached to the boat or held firmly by the handler.

**Judge/Steward:** Directions to be “Are you ready?” “Call your dog”, “Exercise finished”

The dog should not need to be restrained whilst awaiting the call from the handler. The Steward should not have to enter the water to take the rope from the dog. The towrope should float. The mouthpiece can be but is not limited to, such as used by water-skiers or a backspaced rope. The same type of mouthpiece should be available to all handlers, and is to be selected from the equipment provided by the Club. The dog may choose to hold the rope rather than the mouthpiece, but must hold the rope in such a place as to not endanger itself, the boat or the occupants.

### **5.3.3 Rescue Handler**

**Purpose:** To demonstrate the dogs' ability to respond to swim to a known person in distress and tow them safely to shore.

**Desired Performance:** The dog remains quietly on shore with the Steward, while the handler swims offshore a distance that requires the dog to swim a minimum of 10 metres. The Judge will indicate when the distance has

been reached and instruct the handler to begin the exercise. On the Judges' direction to begin, the handler will attract the dogs' attention by splashing and calling the dog **other than by name**. The dog swims to the handler, circles around the handler, allowing the handler to take hold of the dog who then tows the handler back to shore. The Judge will indicate that the exercise is complete when the dog and the handler have exited the water and are together on the shore.

**Time Limit:** 2 minutes from the direction "Call your dog" (refer to section 2.15)

**Scoring:** 5 points for entering to the water  
10 points for swimming to the handler  
5 points for circling  
5 points for allowing the handler to hold onto the dog  
10 points for towing the handler to shore  
5 points for exiting the water

**Total points:** 40

**Penalties will be applied for:**

- Lack of control
- Anticipation
- Calling the dog by name
- Physical correction
- Hesitation in entering the water
- Not swimming directly to the handler
- Not turning safely
- Not effecting a safe tow
- Not swimming directly to shore
- Not towing the handler to shallow water
- Not allowing the handler to exit the water safely
- Not leaving the water when instructed

**Failure:** Exceeding the time limit if the dog ceases to continue to work. Providing the dog is still working, exceeding the time limit is to be penalised by 1 point for every 10 seconds over time

**Disqualification:** Deliberate forcible contact that endangers the handler eg. Climbing, raking or holding onto the handler.

**Permitted actions:** **The handler may call the dog other than by its' name**, may splash, shout and otherwise indicate distress, use extra commands and encouragement.

The handler may hold onto the dog in anyway providing it does not cause stress to or endanger the dog or handler.

The dog may circle the handler or turn behind the handler to allow the handler to take hold of the dog.

**Judge/Steward:** Directions are "Are you ready?" "Call your dog", "Exercise finished"

The dog should not need to be restrained whilst awaiting the call from the handler.

### **5.3.4 Underwater Retrieve**

**Purpose:** To demonstrate the dogs' ability to retrieve an article from a modest depth of water (30 cm).

**Desired Performance:** **The Judge will direct the dog and handler to enter the water to the required 30 centimeter depth on the dog.** On direction from the Judge and with the dog waiting quietly, the handler will throw the article 1 metre in front of the dog and parallel to the shore. The Judge will direct the handler to "Send the dog" once the article has sunk, the handler directing the dog to retrieve the article and return it to the handler. The Judge will indicate completion of the exercise when the handler has taken the article from the dog.

**Time Limit:** 1 minute from the direction “Throw the article”. The exercise commences on being directed to enter the water. (refer to section 2.15)

**Scoring:** : 5 points for entering to the water  
5 points for the dog submerging its head and searching for the article  
5 points for retrieving the article  
5 points for delivering to hand

**Total points:** 20

**Penalties will be applied for:**

- Lack of control
- Anticipation
- Hesitation in submerging head (does not include trawling)
- Not homing in on the general area the article entered the water
- Physical correction
- Rethrowing the article (5 points per rethrow)
- Dropping the article before delivering it to hand
- Not releasing the article to the handler
- Handler assists the dog to locate the submerged article.

**Failure:** Exceeding the time limit.

**Disqualification:** Handler attempting to force the dogs head underwater.

**Permitted actions:** The dog may trawl the article with its paws before retrieving the article and delivering it to hand. Dog may search underwater to locate the article. Once the dog attempts to retrieve the article the handlers hands must be visible by the judge, and may only submerge their hands to allow for a rethrow.

**Judge/Steward:** Directions shall be “Are you ready?”, “Enter the water”, “Throw the article”, “Send your dog”, “Exercise finished”

The direction “Send your dog” should be given after sufficient time has elapsed to allow the article to sink completely.

A measuring pole marked the required depth is to be placed in the ground prior to the dog entering the water.

The same type of article should be available to all handlers, and is to be selected from the equipment provided by the Club.

The article should be no more than 10cm in height, weighted so it will sink rapidly.

A light line may be attached to aid location in the event of the dog failing to find the article.

Consideration should be given to prevailing conditions, such as water clarity, and water movement (especially in windy or tidal conditions).