

TACTICAL TRACKER TEAMS CERTIFICATION



This certification is multifaceted and designed to test the K9 handler and dog's ability to work with a tactical team in support during a high-risk manhunt in levels 1 through 2. The Level 3 certification evaluates the K9 handler/ dog and team's ability to locate the subject and ultimately, the team's ability to remove the threat safely.

TACTICAL TRACKER TEAMS CERTIFICATION

Tactical Tracking Level I Certification

Is a double-blind trail in a rural environment with no major surface changes, no more than one hour old, and no more than 600 meters in length.

No more than two subjects are armed with weapons capable of firing simmunition style ammunition or paintballs and are waiting in ambush. No more than two similarly armed tactical support personnel support the handler. (Safety equipment is required for each person on this certification.) These personnel cannot assist with any aspect of the trail other than following the handler and acting as armed support. They may not offer any advice to the handler whatsoever, however, they may return fire if fired upon by the subject.

The handlers must read the dog accurately enough to stop the team within 50 meters of the subject(s) waiting in ambush without being fired upon. If the subject fires at any team member first, the handler fails the certification. The subject may not fire outside 30 meters.

Requirements for reading the alert: The handler must stop within 50 meters and articulate he or she has a final proximity alert to the team and evaluator. The handler must also articulate what tactical action is required.

Acceptable answers are: Pause, take defensive positions, triangulate the source, contain, and call out the subject out. Pause, take defensive positions, triangulate the source, contain, and flank the subject for a tactical advantage. Pause, take defensive positions, triangulate the source, contain, and call for fire support.

There is a one-hour time limit for this certification. The evaluator can offer no advice to any member of the team and must stay behind the team by at least 10 meters until the handler stops and calls the final alert.

TACTICAL TRACKER TEAMS CERTIFICATION

Tactical Tracking Level II Certification

Is a double-blind trail in a rural environment with no major surface changes, no more than one hour old, and no more than 800 meters in length.

No more than two subject(s) are armed with a weapons capable of firing simmunition style ammunition or paintballs and are waiting in ambush. No more than six similarly armed tactical support personnel support the handler. (Safety equipment is required for each person on this certification.) These personnel cannot assist with any aspect of the trail other than following the handler, clearing obstacles and defiles, and acting as armed support. They may not offer any advice to the handler whatsoever, however, they may return fire if fired upon by the subject.

There will be at least one dangerous barrier or obstacle (defile) that must be negotiated by a security team following the K9 in the middle of the trail. The subject(s) will create scent pools that enhance this defile. Physical objects left behind containing human scent or contact odor may be in the area of the defile. The subjects will then leave the defile and continue the trail for at least 400 meters to a final ambush position.

The handler must identify the defile and direct the tactical team in support to clear the defile prior to continuing the trail. Once the defile is deemed "safe", the handler must reacquire the trail by any method possible.

The handler must read the dog accurately enough to stop the team within 50 meters of the subject(s) waiting in ambush without being fired upon. If the subject fires at any team member first, the handler fails the certification. The subject may not fire outside 30 meters.

Requirements for reading the alert: The handler must stop within 50 meters and articulate he or she has a final proximity alert to the team and evaluator. The handler must also articulate what tactical action is required.

Acceptable answers are: Pause, take defensive positions, triangulate the source, contain, and call out the subject out. Pause, take defensive positions, triangulate the source, contain, and flank the subject for a tactical advantage. Pause, take defensive positions, triangulate the source, contain, and call for fire support.

There is a 2 hour time limit for this certification. The evaluator can offer no advice to any member of the team and must stay behind the team by at least 10 meters until the handler stops and calls the final alert.

TACTICAL TRACKER TEAMS CERTIFICATION

Tactical Tracking Level III Certification

Is a double blind trail in a rural environment with no major surface changes, no more than one hour old, and no more than 1200 meters in length.

No more than two subject(s) are armed with a weapon capable of firing simmuniton style ammunition or paintballs and are waiting in ambush. No more than six similarly armed tactical support personnel support the handler. (Safety equipment is required for each person on this certification.) These personnel cannot assist with any aspect of the trail other than following the handler, clearing obstacles and defiles, and acting as armed support. They may not offer any advice to the handler whatsoever, however, they may return fire if fired upon by the subject.

There will be at least one dangerous barrier or obstacle (defile) that must be negotiated by a security team following the K9 in the middle of the trail. The subject(s) will create scent pools that enhance this defile. Physical objects left behind containing human scent or contact odor may be in the area of the defile. The subjects will then leave the defile and continue the trail for at least 400 meters to a final ambush position.

The handler must identify the defile and direct the tactical team in support to clear the defile prior to continuing the trail. Once the defile is deemed "safe", the handler must reacquire the trail by any method possible.

The handler must read the dog accurately enough to stop the team within 50 meters of the subject(s) waiting in ambush without being fired upon. If the subject fires at any team member first, the handler fails the certification. The subject may not fire outside 30 meters.

Requirements for reading the alert: The handler must stop within 50 meters and articulate he or she has a final proximity alert to the team and evaluator.

TACTICAL TRACKER TEAMS CERTIFICATION

Tactical Tracking Level III Certification Cont'd

The remainder of this certification is of the tactical team.

The team must flank or envelop the subject(s) without being fired upon.

The subject(s) may opt to withdraw from the ambush should they detect the team in order to counter the flanking maneuver or envelopment.

The team succeeds if the flanking or envelopment maneuver results in a successful callout or enfilade of the subject(s).

The team fails if the subjects safely withdraw from the ambush position or fire upon the team before the team can fire.

There is a 3-hour time limit for this certification. The evaluator can offer no advice to any member of the team and must stay behind the team by at least 10 meters until the handler stops and calls the final alert.



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