

# World of Lupines Foundation Canine Companion Test

(W.O.L.F. CC TEST)

The World of Lupines Foundation's Canine Companion curriculum is designed to enhance the lives of owners and their dogs by promoting training and stability through a positive and mutual working relationship. The ideal dog has a responsible owner who takes pride in their dog's health, wellbeing, social manners, and sound disposition. Together, dogs and their owners will serve as model citizens for responsible canine ownership.

Before taking the CC test, owners must be a member of W.O.L.F. and by doing so has agreed to abide by W.O.L.F.'s Code of Ethics for responsible canine ownership and husbandry. We believe responsibility and taking an active role in shaping the development of a dog's adaptability to the modern environment is the landmark of successful canine ownership.

## QUALIFICATIONS

The CC curriculum is a non-competitive test for the well-mannered canine. It is open to all dogs amongst various life-stages, whether pedigreed or mix-breed, and does not have to be a registered Lupine Dog to participate. A certificate of achievement will be awarded to the owner and their dog for successfully completing the evaluation. There are three levels of achievement qualified by age: Gold CC Award Title, Silver CC Award Title, and Bronze CC Award Title.

**Gold:** dogs 24+ months; must successfully complete all 10 exams

**Silver:** dogs 12-24 months; must successfully complete 1,2,3,4,5,8,9

**Bronze:** puppies up to 12 months; must successfully complete 1,2,3,4,9

*All owners should maintain their dog's safety, health, and wellbeing. Dogs should be adequately and safely contained at all times when not with a handler. Dogs should receive appropriate veterinary care, a proper diet, and remain up-to-date on all vaccination requirements. Dogs should be socialized and given daily exercise to ensure optimal quality of life and maximize mental and physical wellness. Owners will maintain control of their dog in public places and will be a steward of their breed at all times.*

## TESTING POLICIES: EQUIPMENT, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND DISQUALIFICATION

- All tests are on lead. The dog's collar should be a flat buckle collar, slip collar, martingale or head collar. The dog may also wear a well-fitted harness. Electric collars that shock or emits a vibration for control of the dog, and prong or pinch collars are strictly prohibited. The evaluator will supply a 20-foot lead for recalls.
- Owners may use verbally praise, treats and toys to encourage their dog throughout testing.
- Any dog that demonstrates aggressive behavior such as growling, snapping, lunging or attempting to bite the evaluator, other dogs or the owner will be immediately disqualified and testing will stop.

### W.O.L.F. CANINE COMPANION TEST

*After signing up to W.O.L.F.'s Code of Ethics and training to prepare for testing, owners and their dogs are ready to take W.O.L.F.'s Canine Companion test.*

#### Test 1: Approached by a friendly stranger

In this situation a stranger (evaluator) will approach the dog and the owner in a friendly, open manner. The stranger will stop and greet the owner, ignoring the dog. The stranger will greet the owner, shake their hand, and walk away.

The dog must not attempt to flee, shy away from, or show any aggression towards the stranger. The dog does not need to remain at a sit, but they should not be overly excited, whining, barking or jumping on either the owner or the stranger.

#### Test 2: Politely allowing petting by a friendly stranger

In this situation a stranger (evaluator) will approach the dog while it is sitting or standing at its owners side. After greeting the owner, the evaluator will ask if it is ok to pet the dog. The evaluator will then pet the dog on back.

The dog may move while being pet but should not react with flight, shyness, or aggression.

### **Test 3: Physical health and appearance**

All dog owners should take pride in their canine's appearance and physical health. It is important that a veterinarian can examine dogs for wellness exams. In this situation the evaluator will inspect the dog to assure its coat is clean and brushed. The dog should be of appropriate weight, neither under fed or overweight. The dog should allow the evaluator to look in their ears and run their hands down the length of the back and down the legs. The dog is permitted to move around during the inspection and the owner may talk to the dog and offer praise and reassurance.

### **Test 4: Walking on a loose leash**

In this situation the dog will be walked by on a loose leash by their owner. This exercise will show that the owner has control over the dog. The dog does not have to stay at heel nor sit at stops.

The evaluator will instruct the owner to walk the dog at ease. During this time the owner will be asked to do at least one right turn, one left turn, and one about turn. The evaluator will ask the owner to stop at least once during this exercise. The dog should remain well-mannered during this exercise. They will neither lunge ahead and pull the owner nor lag behind with resistance. The owner is permitted to talk to and offer the dog positive encouragement.

### **Test 5: Walking politely through a crowd**

In this situation the owner will walk the dog on a loose leash through a crowd of people. This exercise will show that the owner has control over the dog in public places. The dog does not have to stay at heel nor sit on stops.

The evaluator will ask the dog owner to walk their dog through a group of at least four people. The dog can show some interest in the people. The dog should not be overly excited nor exhibit excessive shyness. The dog should not pull on the leash, lag behind the owner, nor jump on any of the people in the group while passing by.

### **Test 6: Sit, down and remaining in place (on long line)**

In this situation the dog will be evaluated on basic obedience commands. The owner will be asked to put their dog in a sit. This must be done without touching and/or forcing the dog into place. The owner will then be asked to put their dog in a down position. This must also be done without touching and/or forcing the dog into position. The owner will then be asked to either put their dog in a sit / stay or down / stay, whichever is more comfortable for the dog. The owner will walk appropriately 20 feet away, turn and return to their dog. The dog should not move from the position the owner left it in. The owner can release the dog from position upon return.

### **Test 7: On lead recall (long line)**

This evaluation tests the recall of the dog. Using a long line, the owner will put their dog in a sit/ stay, down/stay, or wait position. The owner will walk appropriately 20 feet away from their dog and turn and face them. The owner will then call their dog by name. The owner may verbally praise and encourage their dog to recall.

### **Test 8: Behaving politely around another dog**

This evaluation test how well the dog interacts with other canines. Two owners will walk towards each other from approximately 20 feet away. As they meet, they will stop, say hello to each other and shake hands. The dogs can be put in a sit if the owner so chooses. They will then continue on their walk. The dog being tested should not demonstrate fear of the other owner or the other dog. The dog being test should also show no aggression towards the other owner or the other dog.

### **Test 9: Distraction and recovery**

The dog should be able to handle everyday distractions with confidence and without excessive fear. While it is ok for the dog to be momentarily startled or show interest, the dog should recover in a timely manner. The dog should show no aggression if the distraction involves a person.

The evaluator will choose two distractions for each dog tested. Distractions can be anything from an object being dropped or moved, to a person running by, or a person walking nearby with an object such as a cane in their hand. After asking the owner if they are ready the evaluator will perform the first distraction. The owner may talk to and encourage their dog throughout. After the first distraction the evaluator will ask the owner if they are ready for the second distraction. Again, the owner may talk to and encourage their dog throughout.

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### **Test 10: Reaction to separation from owner**

This test evaluates whether the dog can be left in the care of another person. The dog should be able to be left briefly with the evaluator without causing the dog undue stress or fear.

The evaluator will approach and ask the owner if it is ok to hold their dog. At this time the owner will give the evaluator the leash and walk away from their dog. The dog does not have to maintain any certain position. The dog should not show excessive fear or aggression. The dog should not bark, whine excessively, or pace uncontrollably. The evaluator may talk to and encouraged the dog but not excessively attempt to manage or control the dog.