

Proposed revised standards, ASRC operational dog handler.

- A. The handler has completed the requirements for ASRC Field Team Member.
- B. The handler has received training in canine first aid that satisfies VA DES requirements.
- C. The handler-dog team has passed written and practical tests as stipulated by the VA DES.
- D. The handler has demonstrated practical competence in the following navigational skills:
 - 1. Chooses appropriate tactics for navigating for an air-scenting canine search.
 - 2. Keeps an accurate grid on a canine area search, ensuring consistent and adequate coverage of the entire area.
 - 3. Estimates POD accurately based on grid coverage, conditions and terrain
 - 4. Can adjust tactics when appropriate, in response to:
 - a. Command request for coverage to a specific POD
 - b. Changes in weather, air movement, terrain, obstacles and hazards
 - c. Team condition and morale, particularly canine condition and morale
 - d. Clues, including scent clues
 - 5. Marks and reports clues and alerts accurately on the task map
 - 6. Identifies any areas not covered to the target POD, and suggests tactics for doing so
 - 7. Guides an evacuation team to his position by a safe and efficient route.
 - 8. Works with a navigator, but maintains a consciousness of his position and is able to resume navigation and reconstruct the route followed at all times.
[Keith -- help me out with the wording of this one]
- E. The handler has demonstrated competence in the following field team management skills:
 - 1. Briefs and debriefs a field team of no more than three additional human members on the subject profile and the task assignment, including the specific requirements of canine search
 - 2. Briefs and debriefs accurately and succinctly with Incident Staff
 - 3. Delegates field team tasks such as communications, navigation, and medical responsibilities appropriately
 - 4. Monitors the condition of his team and keeps it on task
 - 5. Refuses assignments or team members when team safety or level of training dictates.