

Guide to assessors trainers and competitors- Field Trial Beginner Silver (FTBS)

Note : These is not “obedience” tests but assess the dog for readiness to start Gundog trials at a novice level. It is recommended (but not necessary)that BT bronze is passed first

Note: No food to be taken on to testing ground. Treats must be fed off the grounds

Section One – Heelwork

The handler is required to walk his dog at heel without a lead from the line to the **30-metre** sit marker. Maximum points for the heel – 10. Points will be lost for repeated commands from the handler, or poor positioning of the dog.

Section Two – Sit and Stay:

The handler is required to sit the dog at the **30-metre** marker with a single sit command and to return to the line without the dog. Maximum points for the sit – 10 Points will be lost for a slow response, or multiple commands. The dog must remain seated for three minutes.

Section 3 -Stay: Maximum points for the stay – 10. Points will be lost if the dog stands up, or creeps. No further commands may be given. Handler to return and collect the dog at the end of the stay

Section 4 – Recall:

To be tested from a second stay. The handler to sit the dog and walk **30 metres** away, then turn and recall the dog. The handler whilst standing at the starting post, will be required to recall the dog by whistle from the sit marker. The dog must return to the heel position on recall without fuss, delay or excessive commands. Maximum points for the recall 10. Points will be lost for repeated commands from the handler and for slow or erratic returns, or for any lack of control on arrival of the dog

Section Four – The stop:

The handler is required to walk to the **30 metre** stop marker with the dog at heel. As the pair pass the 15 metre stop marker the handler must blow the stop whistle and carry on walking without a pause. The dog must drop promptly into the sitting

position when the whistle is blown and remain there as the handler walks on to and around the 30 metre marker and returns to the dog. The handler then heels the dog back to the line and replaces lead Maximum points for the 'stop' 10

Watch these videos to obtain level of standard (right click "open hyperlink")

- Gr 2 Retriever: Pass: <https://youtu.be/kqCcJbkzK4g>

- Gr 2 Spaniel: Merit: <https://youtu.be/i8Or52FIgE8>

Retrieving

Section One – Memory retrieve

A single 'Go-back' retrieve is carried out at the end of the Obedience section. The handler is given a dummy and walks the dog at heel from the starting post to the **30-metre** marker. The handler drops the dummy at the 30-metre marker and returns to the starting post. Without undue delay, the assessor will instruct the handler to send the dog for the retrieve. Maximum points for memory retrieve 20

Section Two – Marked retrieve

Two marked retrieves

Mark 1 A single retrieve on land and in clear view at 50 metres. (Spaniels and HPRs 30m) Maximum marks 20

Mark 2 A single retrieve on land and in short cover at 50 metres. .(Spaniels and HPRs 30m) Maximum marks 20

Dummies to be thrown by third party or launcher

Section Three – Directional retrieves

A single 20 metre retrieve *either* right *or* left: two dummies (A and B) are thrown, one to either side of the dog who is facing the handler. (handler standing opposite dog at 20 m) The dog must remain steady while the dummies are thrown and must fetch dummy A (requested by the assessor on a hand signal from the handler.) (this dummy will be the first thrown by the handler) The handler must not move around during the retrieve. Once retrieved the handler then throws another dummy out to the original position of dummy A. The dog then retrieves the dummy B Maximum points for each retrieve is 15. Delivery to hand is essential.

Each of the directional retrieves is worth up to 20 marks

Spaniels and HPRs only

Light Cover hunting

Aptitude and enthusiasm

This simple hunting test is a test of aptitude and enthusiasm for hunting. The dog will be required to demonstrate a willingness to move away from the handler and to show an interest in hunting some light cover. The cover will consist of soft vegetation. The dog will not be required to quarter, turn to whistle or hunt to a pattern Spaniels to hunt a piece of light cover .and HPRs to hunt soft vegetation. Handler to move into the wind, with the dog ranging freely to either side.

The dog must demonstrate keenness/enthusiasm, with interest in cover and scent (6 marks).

Must show an organised approach to ground cover (formal pattern not required) (6 marks).

The handler must demonstrate control of the dog (handler may encourage the dog to turn by voice or whistle) (6 marks)

Each aspect of hunting is worth 6 marks – total 18

Summary of points awarded	
Retrievers spaniels and Retriever/Spaniel/HPR Obedience	
	Heelwork 10
	Sit and Stay 10
	Stay 10
	Recall 10

	The stop	10
	Total obedience	50
Retrieve	Memory	20
	Marking 1	20
	Marking 2	20
	Directional 1	20
	Directional 2	20
	Total retrieve	100
Spaniels HPR only	Willingness	6
Hunting	Organization	6
Total	Cooperation	6
	Total	18
	Water Retrieve	Complete /NYR
	<66% NYR (not yet ready) 66-75% Pass 75 -90 %Merit 90-100%Distinction	
Retrievers	Total NYR <99 marks 150 Pass 100 -112 Merit 113-135 Distinction 136-150	
Spaniels/HPR	Total NYR <111 marks 168 Pass 112 -126 Merit 127-151 Distinction 152-168	