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VCJC Canine Committee Meeting

Date: January 18, 2023

Members present: Robert Ryan, Captain Dunlap, LT Gioleito, Sgt. Mark Redman, Cpl. David Dewey, Cpl. Jeremy Perkins, Michael Carifio and Trooper Steven Schutt

Notes taken by Cpl. Jeremy Perkins.

Meeting called to order at 12:06 hrs

*Reviewed and approved minutes from committee meeting on November 15, 2022.

*Dewey began review of NESPAC standards and the updates to the canine program standards which include new handler certifications and annual certifications. An open discussion began to review the changes made and any potential issues the committee members noticed.

*12:22 hrs: There was clarification in regards to how many Canine Committee members will be required moving forward in 2023. The number that was agreed upon was 5 to 7.

*It was agreed that the annual Canine Training and awards would be held at the VPA on March 8, 2023.

*Moving forward if a K-9 team has an issue that causes them to not meet standards in a particular discipline they will be suspended until the issues is corrected. Meaning is a team does not meet standards with apprehension work they will not be able to work as a patrol team but the drug detection certification would not be affected. (Page 4, AA and Page 10, E)

*Under Handler control on page 14 and 15 make and change that the timing of the commands will be at the direction of the evaluator. Make a change that Teams will not be grandfathered in and the start date will be changed from February 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023.

*On page 39 delete the top paragraph.

*On page 35 delete top paragraph. Standard tracks will be one-half mile and advanced tracking to include SAR will be a mile and a half, aged no older than 6 hours. These are two separate certifications.

*On pages 25 and 26 there was a discussion about firearm lubricants and the standards with firearm detection teams. Under “Proofing / Distractor Odors”, 1, add cleaning patches but remove sections 2 through the first number 9. There was a discussion as far as the clarification of waivers. The remaining discussion was tabled.

*Page 2, first paragraph, remove the portion of the last sentence after “Advanced level courses.”

*Page 6, add “Canine committee” to Approved by. Clarify that the required in-service training is 8 hours per discipline.

*Page 8, add that can be suspended by the head trainer pending a review by the canine committee.

*Page 9 if there are deficiencies the team in question will be evaluated by a trainer or instructor under section 1. Under section 3 change “Canine Committee” to head trainer or assistant trainer. Under section 5 change “Remedied” to controlled and end that sentence at handler.

*Page 10, section E, number 1 delete “As defined in this section.” Under section 2 change to, teams will be evaluated by evaluation committee.

*Page 13, section D, 1 delete “If Necessary” and under number 4 that should say “Tracking exercises will consist of.”

*Page 18, section A, 11 should read that a K-9 team cannot miss more than 2 aids.

*Page 36, under “Wilderness / air scent field certification test”, number 8 delete “Air scent” and change to “Search and rescue.” Delete the entire section for “Under water detection that flows into page 37.

*Page 38, delete the top paragraph.

*Page 40 under “XV. VCJC canine committee and canine trainer certification standard”, “g.” if a committee member “Will” be asked to be removed if they miss more that two meeting. They may submit a letter of explanation to maintain seat which will be voted on by active committee members. Section “i.” should read one patrol day and one drug detection day. Under section 3, “c.” evaluation teams will assist with 4 days.

*Page 41, section B, should read “ VCJC approved canine instructor, assistant trainer. Under section 2, should read a minimum number of “Three” years of experience. Delete section 3. Add assistant trainer with 5 years experience.

*There was discussion on PT test changes and what would be reasonable standard which was tabled. Gun fire standards were discussed. Are gun dog detection and powder dog detection the same discussion.

Meeting was adjourned at 15:16 hrs

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