



## HIGH COUNTRY K-9, INC. HANDLER SKILLS CHECKLIST

<b>Handler's Name</b>	
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<b>Evaluation Item:</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>	<b>Handler's Initials</b>
<b>Optional Items:</b>		
1. Basic ICS Course		
2. Managing The Lost Person Incident Course		
3. Man-tracking Course		
<b>Mandatory Items:</b>		
<b>1. Navigation</b>		
Orient a map to the north		
Take two-three compass bearings – bi/triangulate on map		
Describe features on a topographical map		
Describe declination, magnetic & true north		
Find location on map from UTM coordinates		
Navigate a 3-point compass course using paces		
Enter UTM coordinates on GPS and save as a waypoint		
Follow a route using GPS waypoints (Goto)		
<b>2. Scent Theory</b>		
Able to understand and verbalize the following:		
Scent Pools		
Convection		
Wind effect on scent		
Terrain effect on scent		
Weather effect on scent		
Temperature effect on scent		
Chimney effect (lofting)		
<b>3. Search Strategy</b>		
Able to understand and verbalize the following:		
Determine search strategy using terrain and wind		
Determine distance between grids		
Basic knowledge of Lost Person Behavior		
Basic knowledge of how/where to deploy multiple search dog teams		
Knowledge of search strategy by:		
i. Walking with an operational dog team		
ii. Evaluate area and conditions, plan strategy for team		
Describe actions of the dog and reasons for the dog's behavior		
<b>4. Knowledge of dog behavior</b>		
Describe the following:		
Types of alerts (passive / aggressive)		
Signs of stress		
Signs of aversion		
Examples of displacement behavior		
<b>5. K-9 First Aid</b>		
Demonstrate/Verbalize emergency steps for the following:		
CPR		
Bandaging		

Heat Stroke/Exhaustion		
Hypothermia		
Repair torn nail		
Shock		
Internal bleeding		
Fracture		
Drowning		
<b>6. Human First Aid (Minimum)</b>		
Current CPR certification		
Basic First Aid		
<b>7. Physical Requirements</b>		
Demonstrate the following:		
Ability to walk three miles in fifty minutes with 30# pack		
<b>8. Crime Scene Preservation</b>		
Explain actions to be taken when finding evidence in the field		
Describe how to preserve a possible crime scene in the field		
<b>9. Night Search</b>		
Describe equipment needed for night searching versus daytime		
Participate in a mock or actual night search		
<b>10. Man tracking</b>		
Demonstrate how to measure a track		
Demonstrate how to use a tracking stick		
<b>11. Obedience &amp; Agility</b>		
Dog must demonstrate controlled obedience with distractions:		
Sit		
Down		
Down-Stay (5 minutes with handler out of sight)		
Heel or Close within 2 feet of handler		
Jump up at least three feet into a specified area		
Crawl under an obstacle $\frac{3}{4}$ of the dog's height		
Climb onto, walk along a log or obstacle 3-4 feet off the ground and 10 feet in length		
Stay on area/object until released		
Walk through a culvert or small tunnel		
Approach a person, shake hands etc.		
<b>12. Response to a search incident</b>		
Handler has responded in support of an operational dog team		
<b>13. Command Structure</b>		
Understand and verbalize the following terms and explain their role in SAR:		
ICS		
POD		
PLS		
POA		
DOT		
Team Leader		
Area Segmentation		
Operations Leader		
Planning Chief		
Incident Commander		
Sheriff		
<b>14. Knots</b>		
Demonstrate how to tie the following knots:		
Figure 8		
Water knot		
Fisherman's knot		
Figure 8 bend		
<b>15. Avalanche Safety</b>		
Avalanche safety and awareness class must be completed before testing a dog for avalanche certification.		