

# Maine Association For Search And Rescue

## Basic Search Dog Standard Appendix A

### Initial Certification Or "Grandfathering" Of Working SAR Dog Teams

#### I. Introduction

- A. Dogs certified to be field-ready to search by their unit's training officer before 1 May 1993 may not be subject to the full certification process as outlined by the MASAR Standards Committee.
- B. The MASAR Standards Committee will review the information submitted by each team applying for certification and will have the prerogative to certify teams to the requirements below, require additional testing of a team for certification, or require full testing to the new standard, as the committee sees fit.
- C. Dog teams certified under the specifications of this Appendix shall receive full certification as search dog teams under the MASAR standard.
- D. Out-of-state dog teams and units may not have to meet MASAR standards for initial certification, but the standards to which these units train must be agreeable to the MASAR Standards Committee. The committee may decide to issue to such teams limited certification based on the degree to which their training standards differ from those MASAR accepts.
- E. Dog teams have the right to appeal the Standards Committee's decisions only as specified in Section X of the MASAR standard.

#### II. Applying for Initial Certification or "Grandfathering"

- A. Each unit shall submit a list to the MASAR Standards Committee of

dog teams it would like to have considered for "grandfathering" under the ~~new~~ standard.

- B. For units presently operating within the state, this list of dog team(s) shall be accompanied by a written recommendation from a Warden Service supervisor or above who has worked with the team(s) in question and has SAR experience.
- C. For units whose dog team(s) have not had SAR experience in the State of Maine, the list shall be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the agency of their state or subdivision that has SAR responsibility for their particular area.
- D. The unit will provide documentation of dog team training and the standard(s) to which each dog team was trained.

### III. **Minimum Testing Required for Certification**

- A. Each unit's training officer will submit a list along with pertinent records documenting that the dog teams' handler(s) have met the requirements outlined in Part III of the MASAR standard.
- B. Each dog must pass the tests in Section V, Part B, of the new MASAR standard.
- C. Each dog team must pass one of the tests from Section V, Part C listed below as required for the search technique for which the dog team has applied for certification.
  - 1. Air Scent for Wilderness Search, Heavy brush or Night search
  - 2. Ground Scent for Wilderness Search, Search and rescue tracking dog
  - 3. Article search/Clue detection