

DTA Expert Athlete list of behaviours

	Name	Description and assessment criteria
1	Circle backwards while moving	Dog performs a full circle moving backwards around a moving object or a moving handler. The handler or the object needs to move forwards or backwards not simply rotate on the spot. Demonstrate in both directions.
2	Go up stairs backwards	Dog goes backwards up at least 10 steps on stairs
3	Skip	Dog skips over a moving rope or skipping rope with or without the handler 3 times in a row
4	Climb a ladder	Dog climbs on the secure, appropriate for the dog ladder. The ladder can be placed horizontally on a flat between raised objects or standing at an angle. Handler must be ready to spot the dog where necessary. If required the dog needs to be picked up and safely put back on the floor by the handler
5	Cross paws backwards	Dog steps backwards crossing its front paws for 6 strides or copies the handler as he/she crosses the legs while walking
6	Roll while handler steps over	On cue dog rolls over while handler steps over it. Repeat twice once in each direction or as a sequence in one direction
7	Hold while sitting pretty	Dog holds an object in mouth while sitting pretty for 3 seconds. Dog must sit pretty without support for the duration of this trick and then release the object into handler's hand
8	Hand signals expert	Dog performs 10 different behaviours/skills on hand signal from the handler. The behaviours can be from any category
9	Upright spin	Dog spins or hops around itself in a full circle in both directions while standing on hind legs without support
10	Tic tack off the handler	Dog jumps up, performs tight turn and rebounds off the handler and lands straight down. Repeat twice
11	Balance beam with turn	Dog walks on a long raised object, plank or tree trunk which is narrower than dog's shoulder width for at least 5 steps then makes a turn without stepping off the object and walks 5 steps back
12	Distance work expert	Dog performs 10 tricks at a distance of approximately 5m away from the handler. Voice or hand commands or both are allowed. Any tricks are permitted
13	Ride a scooter	On a flat surface in a safe area dog stands on a stable scooter (not a 2 wheeled variety) with two front feet on the handle bars and one foot on the foot board and pushes from the floor with the other back foot. Perform 5 strides. Handler needs to ensure that the area is safe, is ready to support/spot the dog and that the scooter is of appropriate height for the dog
14	Backwards reverse between handler feet from distance	Dog reverses backwards into position between handler's feet from the distance of 5m or more

	Name	Description and assessment criteria
15	Hoop jumps slalom	Dog sequentially jumps thorough minimum 3 hoops that are positioned alongside each other in a weaving fashion by alternating the side of entry between the subsequent hoops. The hoops can be held by an assistant, stationary and any object resembling a hoop will be accepted including tires, hand circles etc
16	Walk backwards on hind legs	Dog stands tall on its hind legs and makes at least 5 steps backwards maintaining a good balance without any external support
17	Rails reverse	Dog walks backwards on two parallel long objects that are raised off the floor (like 2 planks of wood or similar) that are apart from each other at about the dog's shoulder width or less- for 5 dog steps. Be ready to support the dog if required.
18	Side rails	Dog walks Side stepways on two parallel long objects that are raised off the floor (like 2 planks of wood or similar) that are apart from each other at about half of dog's body length- for 5 dog steps. Be ready to support the dog if required. Perform to the left and to the right.
19	Perch	Dog climbs on or jumps on on a narrow long object about as wide as dog's paw. It can be a beam, rail, a suspended tight rope or anything similar. Dog places all 4 feet on the object and balances in that position for at least 3 seconds.
20	Alternate heeling styles	Dog alternates on cue between 4 different competitive heelwork positions (on the left facing forward, on the left facing backwards, on the right facing forward, on the right facing backwards, across in front, across behind). Demonstrate each heelwork position for at least 5 steps
21	Pod hops	Dog stands with all 4 feet on a small raised object and on cue hops to another similar size object. Repeat twice. The objects can be no bigger than half the dog's body length and have to be stationary. The objects can be anything from pods to books, to boxes, to bollards with flat tops etc. Handler needs to be ready to support the dog if needed.
22	Swing balance	Dog balances itself on a swing (flat board which is half the dog's length or less) suspended on ropes. The swing does not need to swing. Maintain the balance for at least 3 seconds. Handler can help to put the dog up into the swing and put it down back onto the floor. The trick needs to be performed safely
23	Handstand shuffle	On cue dog stands on its front feet with the back feet above dog's head against a raised or a vertical object (wall) in supported like position and on cue moves sideways in that position alongside the object for 5 steps each way.
24	Leap frog	Handler kneels, dog jumps over the handler forward and lies down or sits down. Handler walks forward passing over the dog with one leg either side of the dog and kneels again, dog jumps over again and goes in to "down" or "sit" position. Repeat the sequence 3 times. Dog is allowed to jump on and off the handler's back rather than jump over.
25	Shoe walk	Dog stands facing away from handler with its back paws up on handler's feet. Together they take 5 steps forward and 5 steps backwards without dog removing back paws off handler's feet
26	Flip	Dog jumps up and makes 360 degree turn in the air to the left or to the right and lands facing the same way as started- performing a flip. Repeat twice
27	Hip hop back paws	Dog puts one of the back paws on a raised object while the other one stays on the ground. Dog then swaps paws on the raised objects in one smooth hop- as the result the second paw is now on the raised object while the first one is one the ground. Repeat 3 times as a sequence. Dog' front paws can be on the ground or raised off the ground independently or supported by the handler.

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28	Side balance steps	Dog lifts both front and back paws on one side and makes a hop on two paws (front and back). Repeat twice
29	Tall hop	Dog stands up tall on its back legs and hop jumps remaining on the back legs over a very small jump. Perform twice
30	Tall sideways	Dog stands up tall on its back legs and on cue or together with the handler (but totally unsupported) takes 5 steps sideways
31	Jupiter	Dog stands tall on hind legs and makes a full circle around the handler either moving forwards or backwards. Handler must not lure the dog or assist the dog to stay in upright position.
32	Back stall meerkat	Dog jumps onto handler's back and goes into meerkat (sit pretty) position. Dog needs to maintain the position for at least 2 seconds while balancing on handler's back
33	Walk on tight ropes	Dog walks forwards for at least for 2m on two tight ropes stepping on them with left front and back paws on one rope and right fro and hind paws on another rope.
34	Hockey	Dog holds hockey stick in its mouth and by swinging it delivers a ball or a hockey puck into a net or a gap between objects set up as the "goal"
35	Roll ball with paws	Dog places two front paws on a ball (basketball or a football) and pushes the ball forward by moving it with front paws without putting either of the front paws back onto the ground. Roll for at least 1 m
36	Forward roll	On cue dog performs a forward roll over its head. The handler needs to provide an appropriate safe set up for the dog to perform this tick and risk assess
37	Speed backing up	On cue dog backs up away from handler moving energetically backwards without stopping until handler's stop cue. Handler must remain on spot or move back away from the dog while the dog performs its action