

USMRA DECOY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

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DECOY CERTIFICATION ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Be a member of USMRA in good standing
2. Be at least 18 years of age at date of certification
3. Be able to provide a medical release allowing participation in contact sports. Provide documentation of current Tetanus vaccination.
4. Submit an application for the decoy certification 10 days prior to the date of the planned certification. The application is available on the United States Mondioring Association (USMRA) website. The application will be submitted online or printed and emailed to a member of the Decoy Committee. The application will be reviewed by the Decoy Committee. The Decoy Committee reserves the right to approve or veto the submitted application, however any veto must be for a specific reason.
5. The decoy candidate is responsible to produce the appropriate equipment and dogs for use in the certification. The dogs must be able to demonstrate all necessary exercises needed for a decoy certification and approved by the Decoy Committee.
6. Testing for a Level 2 certification will require the decoy to use at least two dogs, one of which must be an MR3 titled dog and another at least an MR2 titled dog.
7. The dogs used for the certification must be named on the application.

REQUIREMENTS TO HOLD A DECOY CERTIFICATION

1. Must be a Full Member Club in good standing.
2. Field:
 - a. Must meet minimum official Mondioring field size
 - b. Must be safe (no rocks, uneven area, holes) and with adequate shade for decoy and dog to preserve safety of both decoy and dog.
 - c. Location must be within a 2 hours travel radius of an international airport.
3. Equipment:
 - a. Minimum of 1 trial compliant hide
 - b. trial compliant obstacle for the Face Attack over obstacle
 - c. 2 obstacles for the Escort
 - d. Chairs and table for the defense of handler scenario
 - e. 8 - 16 cones or other similar markers for the slalom run
4. Unlimited access to water prior, during, and post the certification.
5. Certification Committee which has been pre-approved by the Decoy committee
6. List of Hotels and campgrounds to accommodate decoys and dog handlers.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS

1. The Certification Committee oversees and directs the certification and determines the pass or fail of each entrant.
2. The certification committee must consist of 3 or more individuals and be approved by the Decoy Committee prior to the day of the decoy certification.
3. The certification committee must consist of the following individuals:
 - a. USMRA Decoy Committee Member or delegate approved by the Decoy Committee,
 - b. Decoy: a currently certified USMRA Level 2 or Level 3 decoy or an international Mondioring decoy for a Level 1 certification; a USMRA Level 3 decoy or an international Mondioring decoy for a Level 2 certification.
 - c. Judge: a USMRA judge or an FCI international judge.

4. In the event the Decoy Committee member or delegate is not a certified decoy, he or she may be required to demonstrate proficiency of the knowledge of the rules and standards concerning decoys and the certification prior to being part of a certification committee. This will be at the discretion of the Decoy Committee.
5. The certification committee will discuss the performance of the decoy and make a joint decision on whether a decoy passes or fails. In the event the certification committee cannot come to a unanimous decision, the Decoy Committee member(s) or delegate present for the certification will have the final say on whether a decoy passes or fails. If more than one member of the Decoy Committee is part of the certification committee, the members of the Decoy Committee should agree on whether the decoy applicant passes or fails.
6. The Decoy Committee member(s) or delegate has the authority to unilaterally terminate the decoy certification for a decoy if they believe it is unsafe, there are egregious violations of the rules, the dog(s) cannot demonstrate the exercises or for other good cause not outlined herein. A certification cannot be terminated without good cause.

SCHEDULING DECOY CERTIFICATIONS

1. Requests to hold decoy certifications must be submitted in writing 30 days prior to the requested date to the Decoy Committee. The written request must outline the required parameters and requested certification committee.
2. The Decoy Committee will review requested decoy certifications to ensure all criteria is met, then submit approved certifications to the USMRA BOD to be announced to membership.
3. Certifications may be held in conjunction with a USMRA sanctioned decoy camp, mondioring seminar or mondioring trial.
4. Trials must have certified decoys selected in advance of the trial and decoy certification and not depend on possible newly certified decoys. Newly certified decoys may work in a trial subsequent to certification at the judge's discretion.

LEVELS OF DECOY CERTIFICATION & REQUIREMENTS TO PASS

1. Level 1 Decoy

- a. A Level 1 decoy shall demonstrate sufficient proficiency to participate as a trial decoy. They must demonstrate proficiency in safety, skills, knowledge of the rules, practical application of the rules to a trial setting and physical conditioning. A Level 1 decoy shall be capable of working an entire trial.
- b. To pass the Level 1 certification, the decoy must obtain at least 70% on the written and physical tests to move on to the performance test, where an 80% must be obtained.

2. Level 2 Decoy

- a. A Level 2 decoy is expected to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the rules and practical application of the rules above and beyond the safety and competency required of a Level 1 decoy. In addition to the proficiency required of a Level 1 decoy, a Level 2 decoy must exhibit commitment to the art of decoying, with some development of skill and finesses in the execution and demonstration of the exercises. A Level 2 decoy should be prepared to demonstrate the ability to take points from an unfamiliar dog during the certification. Level 2 decoys are expected to have acquired additional experience and knowledge prior to upgrading their certification.
- b. To submit an application to certify as a Level 2 decoy, decoys must have worked 5 or more trials as a Level 1 decoy, with a minimum of 3 scores between a 1 and a 3 in their decoy scorebook.
- c. To pass the Level 2 certification test, the decoy must obtain at least 80% on the written and physical tests to move on to the performance test, where an 90% must be obtained.
- d. The performance test must be with an unfamiliar dog, approved by the Decoy Committee, capable of performing all the exercises.

3. Level 3 Decoy

- a. A Level 3 decoy is a decoy who entered in and received a passing score at the International Super Selection. To qualify to represent the USMRA internationally and attend the super selection, the decoy must:
 - i. submit a request to the Decoy Committee, in writing (via email) of their intention to compete in the international super selection process. The request should be received at least 60 days prior to the FCI World Championships.
 - ii. have a minimum of 1 year as a Level 2 decoy and completed 5 trials working MR3 dogs to apply to represent the U.S. in international selection.
 - iii. have obtained a score of 2 or better in at least 3 of the 5 trials as a Level 2 decoy working MR3 dogs
- b. It is within the sole discretion of the Decoy Committee to approve or veto an application for super selection, however any veto must be for a specific reason.