



Handler	Dog	Team Name
Evaluator	Date	

## Prerequisites

- ☐ Paid Initiation Fee    ☐ Pet Health Form Signed by Vet    ☐ Copy of Rabies Certificate    ☐ Signed Team Agreement

## Goal

Our goal is to focus on the safety and suitability of partner teams. This evaluation aims to help determine the pet and handler are suitable and prepared for situations they may encounter while on therapy visits.

## Team Presentation and Preparedness

### 1) Equipment

- ☐ Pass: buckle collar, harness, or gentle leader, 4-6 foot leash  
☐ Needs work: choke, pinch, or prong collars, flexi lead

### 2) Appearance and Grooming

- ☐ Pass: neat, professional appearance, dog clean and well groomed  
☐ Needs work: inappropriate clothing, dog in need of grooming

## Handler Control

### 1) Walking on leash

- ☐ Pass with honors: Walks politely, no pulling or jumping  
☐ Pass: Some pulling but handler has control of dog  
☐ Needs work: Excessive pulling or jumping; handler not in control

### 2) Handling of dog when dog greets new people

- ☐ Pass with honors: sits automatically for new person, maintains position for petting  
☐ Pass: Needs to be cued for sitting, doesn't maintain position but handler has control of dog  
☐ Needs work: Jumps or interacts roughly with new person

## Resiliency

### 1) Reaction to wacky stranger approach (gesturing, staggering, etc)

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction, still interested in interacting with stranger  
☐ Pass: reacts with some caution but recovers quickly with encouragement, handler is able to read dog's caution and manage situation to keep dog comfortable  
☐ Needs work: reacts with great caution, slow to recover, handler not able to manage situation to keep dog comfortable



2) *Reaction to wheelchair approach*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction to walker/wheelchair, still interested in interacting with new person
- ☐ Pass: reacts with some caution but recovers quickly with encouragement, handler is able to read dog's caution and manage situation to keep dog comfortable
- ☐ Needs work: reacts with great caution, slow to recover, handler not able to manage situation to keep dog comfortable

3) *Reaction to walker approach*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction to walker/wheelchair, still interested in interacting with new person
- ☐ Pass: reacts with some caution but recovers quickly with encouragement, handler is able to read dog's caution and manage situation to keep dog comfortable
- ☐ Needs work: reacts with great caution, slow to recover, handler not able to manage situation to keep dog comfortable

4) *Reaction to several people petting at once; crowding*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction to crowd, still interested in interacting with people
- ☐ Pass: reacts with some caution but recovers quickly with encouragement, handler is able to read dog's caution and manage situation to keep dog comfortable
- ☐ Needs work: reacts with great caution, slow to recover, handler not able to manage situation to keep dog comfortable

5) *Reaction to clumsy/rough petting*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction, still interested in interacting with person
- ☐ Pass: reacts with some caution but recovers quickly with encouragement, handler is able to read dog's caution and manage situation to keep dog comfortable
- ☐ Needs work: reacts with great caution, slow to recover, handler not able to manage situation to keep dog comfortable

6) *Reaction to reaching over dog's head for petting*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction, still interested in interacting with person
- ☐ Pass: reacts with some caution but recovers quickly with encouragement, handler is able to read dog's caution and manage situation to keep dog comfortable
- ☐ Needs work: reacts with great caution, slow to recover, handler not able to manage situation to keep dog comfortable

7) *Reaction to other dogs*

- ☐ Pass with honors: mild interest in other dog, maintains proximity and attention to handler
- ☐ Pass: Distracted by other dog, doesn't maintain position but handler has control of dog
- ☐ Needs work: Very distracted by other dog, not able to give attention to handler, handler doesn't have control of the dog

8) *Reaction to handling (collar grab, foot touch, tail pull, restraint hug)*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction
- ☐ Pass: mild response but recovers quickly
- ☐ Needs work: strong response, unable to tolerate handling



9) *Reaction to startle sound (human vocalization)*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction to noise
- ☐ Pass: startle response but recovers quickly with encouragement
- ☐ Needs work: strong startle response, slow to recover

10) *Reaction to startle sound (siren)*

- ☐ Pass with honors: minimal reaction to noise
- ☐ Pass: startle response but recovers quickly with encouragement
- ☐ Needs work: strong startle response, slow to recover

**Final Assessment**

- ☐ Pass with honors
- ☐ Needs work prior to re-evaluation (please see individual sections for details)
- ☐ Not suitable at this time

All vaccines must be current and the fecal exam must be negative to become a WFH member. Your pet must have been seen by your vet within six months of your WFH evaluation.

Notes:

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Signature of Handler

Date

Evaluator's Signature

Date