



## INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR WORKING TRIALS FOR PORTUGUESE WATER DOGS

### ART. 1. Introduction

The Working Trials have as goal the increase of the natural skills of the competing dogs, regarding the improvement of the functional aspects of the Breed in order to develop, awake and expand in breeders, owners and general public, interest in the Working Trials as a cultural activity, sportive and with public utility through informative and educational actions during the Trials. This Trials have the goal of giving continuity to the work made for this Breed during many years, in the performance on board of the fishing boats, as a great fisherman auxiliary.

### ART. 2. Dogs eligible to enter

Only purebred Portuguese Water Dogs registered in a stud book or appendix recognized by the FCI can take part in the competitions.

Each dog must have a working book issued by their National Canine Organization (NCO) in which trial results are recorded, including level, qualification, classification, and the Judge's signature.

Dogs that are owned by the trial Judge or have been owned by the Judge in the six months prior to the trial date are ineligible to enter.

Dogs that are owned by one of the trial Stewards or a member of the Organization cannot enter that trial.

### ART. 3. Water Trials Types and Levels

The Portuguese Water Dog Water Trials are divided as follows:

#### Level I - Working Water Trials

Intended for dogs in beginning of training.

#### Level II – National Championship Working Trials

For dogs that were qualified with Excellent in three Level I trials.

#### Level III - International Championship Working Trials

For dogs that are already National Working Champions.

All dogs must begin their performance in Level I.

In a trial, each dog can only enter in one level.



## ART. 4. Classes

### Young Class

For dogs from 5 to 12 months.

The Young Class only has one level with three trials of appreciation (the same as Level I to Adult Class).

### Adult Class

For dogs from 12 months forward.

## ART. 5. Trials place and support equipment

The Trials must take place preferably in the sea, the natural environment where the breed used to work, or in other aquatic environments such as lakes, rivers, estuary or water dam, the utilization of pools or tanks (still waters) being excluded from the trials realization.

The area of the Trial is a rectangle of 20m large for 15m long that must be fenced with police bars or with poles and ribbon, having as natural prolongation the same area in the water.

The basic support equipment is composed by a chronometer, two tables, four chairs, two sun hats, one pole with a red flag to mark the start/finish line and a boat to support and rescue during the Trial.

## ART. 6. Judges and Stewards

The judgements are made by Judges approved by a recognized NCO.

The Judges approved by their respective NCOs are the only ones qualified to evaluate, qualify and classify the trials of the competitor dogs, they judge under their personal responsibility and their decisions are final and cannot be appealed, except in case of bad interpretation of the regulations or infraction of the official regulations.

It is forbidden to Judges to consult lists of former trials classifications, before the judgments are finished.

During the Trial only the Judge, Stewards and the Handler of the dog performing the exercise are allowed in the in the Trial area.

The Judge must make a report for each dog competitor in Level II and III.

The Stewards competence is to maintain discipline and fulfill the requirements of the Regulation, as well as to contribute to improve the Judge's mission, without, however, interfering in their decisions.

The Organizing Commission, with previous NCO authorization, can replace the announced Judges or Stewards that, for a strong reason, are unable to perform their task.

The Judge can suspend temporarily or definitively a trial in case there are no safety conditions to its realization.



## ART. 7. Judging order

The order by which the judgments are made is the following:

### Level I

Young Class  
Adult Class

### Level II

### Level III

The exercises are made individually, in each class, by the order determined by draw, except if there is a competitor that participates for the first time. In this case he will automatically be the 3rd to participate.

The qualifications must be granted according to the following criteria:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| – Excellent     | Granted to the dog that obtains more than 45 points.  |
| – Very good     | Granted to the dog that obtains between 35 and 44 points.   |
| – Good          | Granted to the dog that obtains between 25 and 34 points.   |
| – Sufficient    | Granted to the dog that obtains between 15 and 24 points.   |
| – Not Qualified | Granted to the dog that obtains less than 15 points, makes eliminating faults, does not perform the exercise A of Level I, or if the dog presents himself momentarily unbalanced. |

The Levels and Exercises are schematized in Annex A of this Regulation.



## Exercises

### ART. 8. Level I exercises

#### Level I - Exercise A

#### Swimming (Speed)

- 1 - The origin of this trial is to recreate one the functions of Water Dogs that was to deliver messages from ship to ship, according to the commands they were given. The Judge evaluates in dogs the temperament characteristics to water and swimming, observing the following points:
  - a - Behaviour before water
  - b - Complete course
  - c - Swimming style and rhythm
  - d - Obedience
  
- 2 - This evaluation is made along a triangular course defined by the start/finish point and by two buoys placed at the same distance, more or less 15m, and also separated 15m between them.

#### Start of trial

- The dog begins the trial in the sitting position on the left side of the handler without leash. At handler's command he must go into water and enter, doing the course with his handler.
- To end the trial the handler goes to the start/finish point and the dog will sit on his left side.
- The dog that does not enter the water within two minutes after the judge's order or does not turn the first buoy will not be classified, although he can continue on trial, he will be placed behind the last dog that concludes the first trial whatever the punctuation obtained in the remaining trials.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Behaviour before water	from 0 to 5 points
Complete course	from 0 to 5 points
Swimming style and rhythm	from 0 to 5 points
Obedience	from 0 to 5 points



## Level I - Exercise B

### Retrieve a Floating Object

The origin of this trial is to recreate one of the Water Dog functions on board of the fishing boats that was to retrieve the objects that fall outside the boat, fishes that got out of the hooks and save human lives. In this trial, the Judge evaluates the way the dog retrieves an object thrown into the water, the skill of swimming with that object in his mouth and the delivery in hand, observing the following points:

- a - Attention to the fall point of the object
- b - Way the dog catches the object
- c - Delivery of the object
- d - Obedience

#### Start of trial

- During the object launch to water the dog is sit without leash on the left side of the handler. The object must be thrown by the handler to the middle of the buoys and at equal distance. In case the launching is not correct, due to its being too short in distance, or outside the buoys, the Judge should ask to repeat the launch.
- To retrieve the object, the dog will start at the handler's command, after he throws the object, and must swim directly to the object, without hesitation or change in direction, and catch it on the first attempt. If the dog does not enter the water within two minutes after the judge's order he will not be classified in this exercise.
- The dog must always carry the object in his mouth without dropping it, and swim directly to his handler. In land, at the handler's command, the dog delivers the object in hand and sits on the handler's left side. When the dog leaves the water, if he drops the object to shake himself, he will not be penalized, if he catches and delivers it to the handler right away.
- If the dog does not retrieve the object he will not score in this exercise.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Mark the point of falling object  
 Way the dog catches the object  
 Delivery of the object  
 Obedience

from 0 to 5 points  
 from 0 to 5 points  
 from 0 to 5 points  
 from 0 to 5 points



## Level I - Exercise C

### Diving with retrieval of a submerge object

The origin of this trial is to recreate one of the functions that Water Dogs had on board of the fishing boats, which was to recover objects that fall in the water and sink. In this exercise the Judge evaluates the way the dog prepares the basic dive (head submerged) and recovers the submerged object at least 0,5m to 1m, observing the following points:

- a - Preparation and way of diving
- b - Retrieve result
- c - Way the dog delivers in hand
- d - Obedience

#### Start of trial

- The dog begins the exercise in the sitting position on the left side of the handler. At the handler's command they both go into the water until the dog starts swimming, then, the handler frees the object that must go underwater and steps away, having two minutes as timeout to recover the submerged object. To recover the object, the dog must, at least, submerge completely his head.
- The Judge must have in attention the sub aquatic visibility conditions and the undulation that may interfere in the retrieval of the object. In this case the Judge evaluates the dogs that prepares in a correct way and dives to attempt recovering the object.
- The object delivery after the retrieval is made in land with the handler positioned in the start/finish point. The dog must bring the object always in his mouth, without dropping it, and swimming directly to the handler. In land, the dog, at the handler's order delivers the object in hand and sits on the left side of the handler. When the dog leaves the water, if he drops the object to shake himself, he will not be penalized, as long as he picks it up afterwards and delivers it to the handler.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Preparation and way of diving

from 0 to 5 points

Retrieve result

from 0 to 5 points

Way the dog delivers in hand

from 0 to 5 points

Obedience

from 0 to 5 points



## ART. 9. Level II exercises

### Level II - Exercise A

#### Swimming (Resistance)

1 - The origin of this trial is to recreate one of the functions of Water Dogs, which was to deliver messages from ship to ship, according to the given orders, sometimes the dogs had to swim considerable distances and had to remain in the water for a long time. The Judge evaluates the dog's temperament characteristics confronting water and swimming, observing the following points:

- a - Behaviour before water
- b - Resistance
- c - Swimming style and rhythm
- d - Obedience

2 - This evaluation is made along a course on which the handler and the dog must go around the placed buoys, several times, until achieving two minutes time.

#### Start of trial

- The dog begins the trial in the sitting position on the left side of the handler without leash. At the handler's command he must go into water and enter, doing the course with his handler.
- The dog that does not enter the water within one minute, or that does not stay inside the water for at least two minutes swimming, will not be classified in this exercise.
- To finish the trial the handler goes to the start/finish point and the dog will sit on his left side.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Behaviour before water	from 0 to 5 points
Resistance	from 0 to 5 points
Swimming style and rhythm	from 0 to 5 points
Obedience	from 0 to 5 points



## **Level II - Exercise B**

### **Retrieve of a floating line with floats (fishing net simulation)**

The origin of this trial is based in the fact that, in boats, dogs detected and retrieved the broken or lost fishing nets, or pieces of net that were broken. The Judge evaluates dogs, observing the following points:

- a - Attention to the fall point of the object
- b - Way the dog catches the object
- c - Delivery of the object
- d - Obedience

#### **Start of trial**

- During the object launch to water the dog is sit without leash on the left side of the handler. The object must be thrown by the handler to the middle of the buoys and at equal distance. In case the launching isn't correct, because it is too short distance, or outside the buoys, the Judge should ask to repeat the launch.
- To retrieve the object, the dog will start at the handler's comand, after he throws the object, and must swim directly to the object, without hesitation or change in direction, and catch it on the first attempt. If the dog does not enter the water within two minutes after the judge's order he will not be classified in this exercise.
- The dog must always carry the object in his mouth without dropping it, and swim directly to his handler. In land, at the handler's command, the dog delivers the object in hand and sits on the handler's left side. When the dog leaves the water, if he drops the object to shake himself, he will not be penalized, as long as he catches and delivers it to the handler afterwards.
- If the dog does not retrieve the object he will not score in this exercise.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Mark the point of falling object  
Way the dog catches the object  
Delivery of the object  
Obedience

from 0 to 5 points  
from 0 to 5 points  
from 0 to 5 points  
from 0 to 5 points





## Level II - Exercise C

### Deep Dive with Retrieve of a Submerge Object

The origin of this trial is to recreate the functions that Water Dogs had on board of the fishing boats, which was to retrieve objects that fell in the water and sunk. In this exercise the Judge evaluates the way the dog dives, at a depth considered between 1 to 1.5m and the recovery of the submerge object, observing the following points:

- a - Preparation and way of diving
- b - Retrieve result
- c - Way the dog delivers in hand
- d - Obedience

#### Start of trial

- The dog begins the trial in the sitting position on the left side of the handler without leash, and at his order they both go to the water edge, the handler launches the object which must go underwater at least for 1m and commands the dog to retrieve the object. The dog must completely dive his body, having two minutes as timeout to recover the submerged object.
- The Judge must have in attention the sub aquatic visibility conditions and the undulation, which may interfere in the object retrieval. In this case the Judge evaluates the dog that prepares in correct way and dives to attempt recovering the object.
- After the retrieval, the object delivery is made in land, with the handler positioned in the start/finish point. The dog must bring the object always in his mouth, without dropping it, and swimming directly to the handler. In land, the dog, at the handler's command delivers the object in hand and sits on the left side of the handler. When the dog leaves the water, if he drops the object to shake himself, he will not be penalized, as long as he catches and delivers it to the handler afterwards.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Diving preparation	from 0 to 5 points
Retrieve result	from 0 to 5 points
Way the dog delivers in hand	from 0 to 5 points
Obedience	from 0 to 5 points



## ART. 10. Level III exercises

### Level III - Exercise A

#### Swimming, following orders, between boat-land-boat

The origin of this trial has the goal of recreate one the functions of Water Dogs, which was to deliver messages from ship to land and back, according to the given orders. The Judge values in dogs the temperament characteristics before water and of swimming, observing the following points:

- a - Behaviour before water
- b - Swimming style, rhythm and speed
- c - Transport and delivery of the object
- d - Obedience

#### Start of trial

- This evaluation is made along a course between an anchored boat 20 m away from land and back.
- If the dog does not enter the water within one minute when ordered by the judge, he will not be classified in this exercise.
- The dog jumps from the boat at the handler's command, swims to land, sits in front of the 2nd handler, catches the object that this handler gives him, swims back to the boat and makes the object delivery to the 1st handler.
- The 1st handler can only give order or encourage the dog in the jump to the water and by voice, and the 2nd handler is only allowed to give the object to the dog and give a verbal order to deliver the object to the 1st handler. Any other kind of intervention can originate the dog not being classified in this exercise.
- The dog has four minutes to complete the exercise.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Jump into water and swimming rhythm	from 0 to 5 points
Capacity to keep in course	from 0 to 5 points
Object delivery	from 0 to 5 points
Obedience	from 0 to 5 points



### Level III - Exercise B

#### Retrieve Floating Object from Boat (fishing net)

The origin of this trial is based in the fact that on board of boats dogs had the responsibility of recovering objects that fell in the water. The Judge evaluates the capacity of dogs to jump into the water, recover the object and come back on board, observing the following points:

- a - Water jump and making of the object
- b - Way the dog catches the object
- c - Delivery of the object
- d - Obedience

#### Start of trial

- The object is launched from the boat by the handler at a distance of approximately 10 meters. If the launch is not at the correct distance the steward replaces the same object. The dog only recovers the object after the judge give their order.
- To retrieve the object, the dog will start at the handler's command, after he throws the object, and must swim directly to the object, without hesitation or change in direction, and catch it on the first attempt, having two minutes as timeout to retrieve the object.
- The dog must always carry the object in his mouth without dropping it, and swim directly to his handler. The dog delivers the object in the handler's hand and enters the boat by the ramp.
- If the dog does not retrieve the object he will not score in this exercise.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Water jump and marking of the object	from 0 to 5 points
Way the dog recovers the object	from 0 to 5 points
Delivery of the object	from 0 to 5 points
Obedience	from 0 to 5 points



### Level III - Exercise C

#### Deep Diving from Boat with Retrieve of a Submerge Object

The origin of this trial is to recreate the functions that Water Dogs had on board of the fishing boats, which was to recover objects that fell in the water and sunk. In this exercise the Judge evaluates the way the dog dives, at a depth considered between 1.5 to 2m and the recovery of the submerge object, observing the following points:

- a - Water jump and way of diving
- b - Recovery result
- c - Way the dog delivers in hand
- d - Obedience

#### Start of trial

- The dog starts this exercise in the sitting position. The handler throws the object about 2m away and it must sink at a minimum depth of 1.5m, then, the dog dives and retrieves the object.
- The Judge must take in consideration the sub aquatic visibility conditions and the undulation, which may interfere in the object retrieval. In this case the Judge evaluates the dog that prepares in correct way, jumps without hesitation and dives to attempt recovering the object, having three minutes as timeout to retrieve the object.
- The dog must always carry the object in his mouth, without dropping it, and swims directly to the boat, delivers the object in the handler's hand and enters the boat by the ramp.
- The Judge will score the competitors according to the following criteria:

Water jump and way of diving	from 0 to 5 points
Retrieve result	from 0 to 5 points
Way the dog delivers in hand	from 0 to 5 points
Obedience	from 0 to 5 points

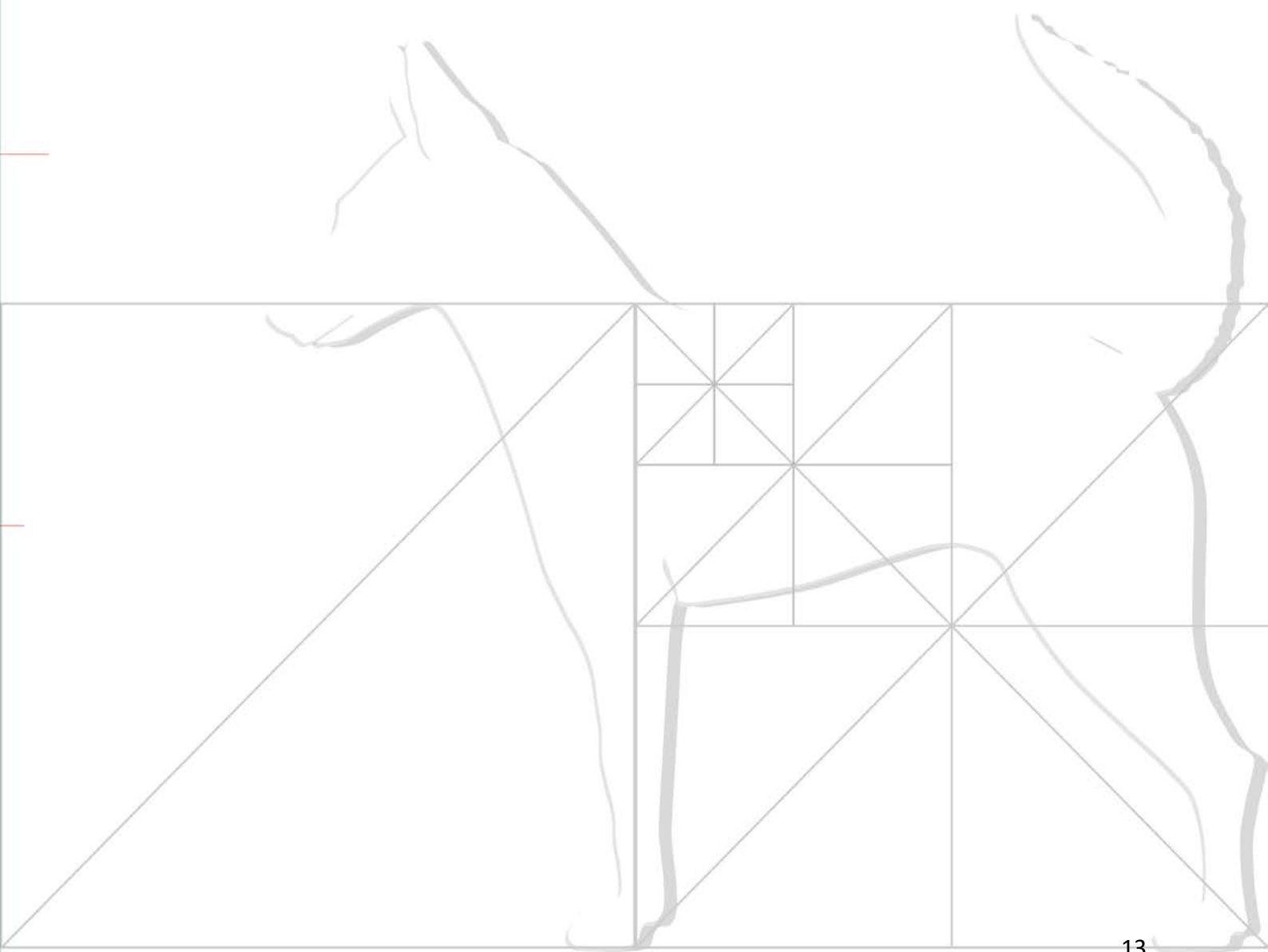


## ART. 11. Handler commands

Only the handler who is on the boat "1st handler" can give verbal commands to dog. Any other type of intervention by the handler that is on land, originates not qualifying the dog in the exercise.

## ART. 12. Objects used in the Trials

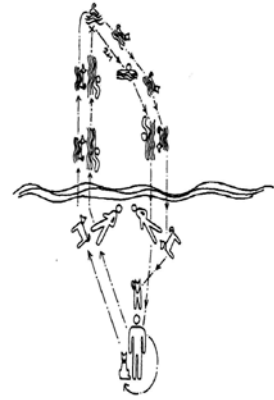
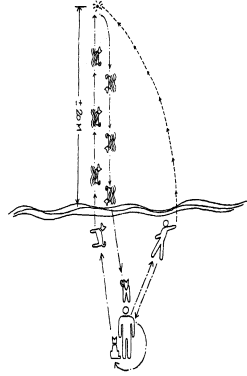
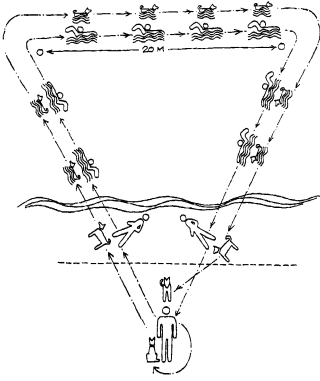
The objects to be used in Trials must be in conformity with the drawings and descriptions of the Annex B of this Regulation, and the Judge must approve them before the Trial.



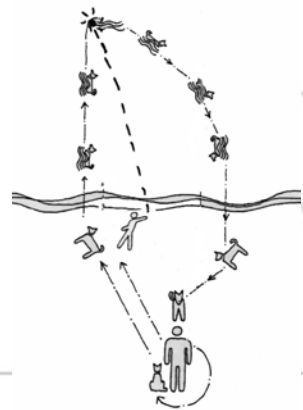
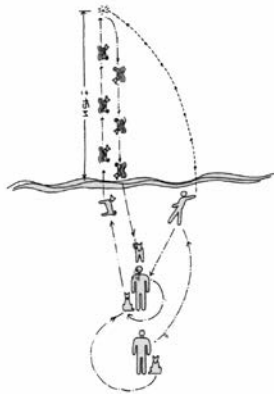
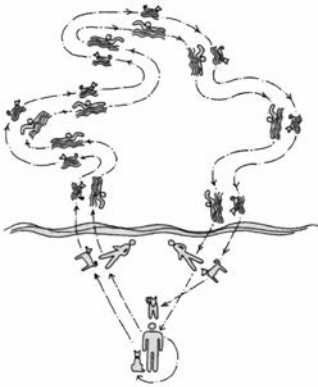


## ANNEX A – Working trial schemes

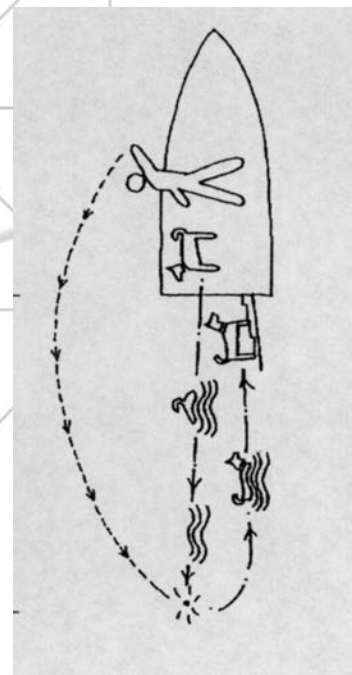
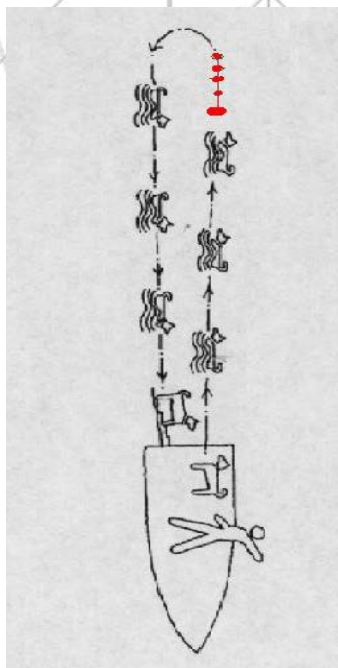
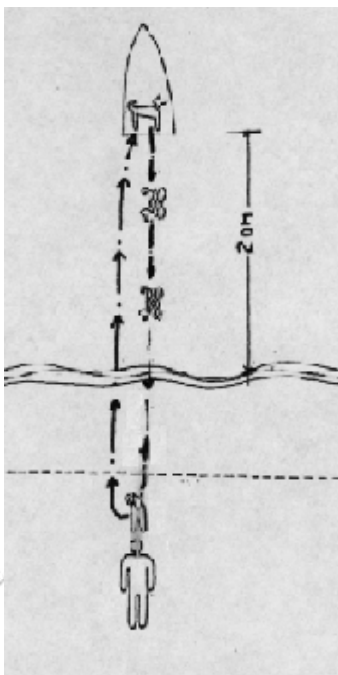
### LEVEL I



### LEVEL II

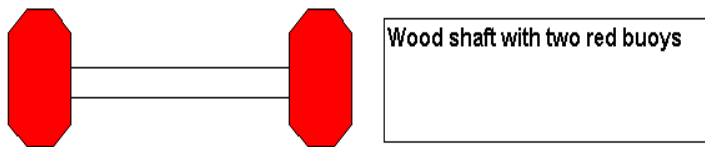
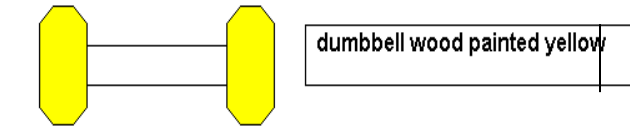


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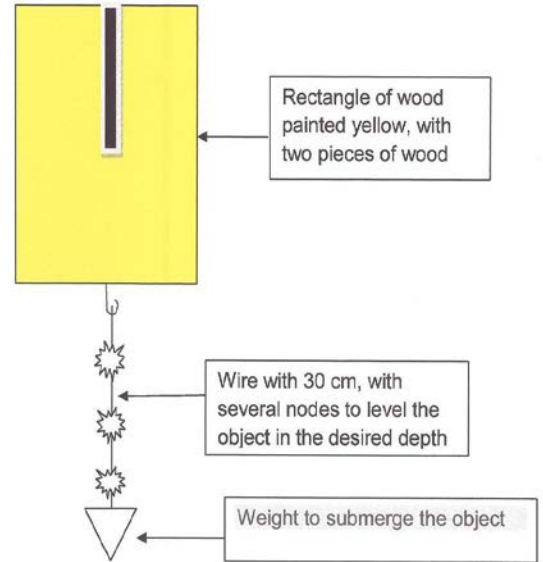


## ANNEX B – Objects used in the water trials

### In level I exercise B and level III exercise A

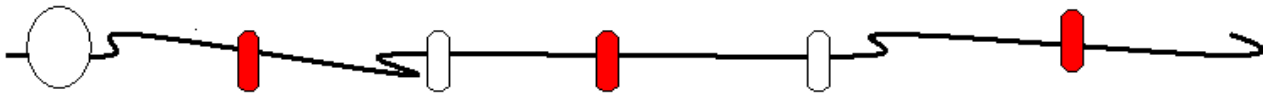


### In level I/II/III exercise C



### In level II exercise B

Floating line with several floats with 2m long.



### In level III exercise B

Fishing net with 3m long and red floats

