

Border Terrier Club of America Policies and Procedures Manual

Border Terrier Club of America Working/Hunting Certificate Program

Titles, Qualifications, and Procedures (Fall 2000 Version)

The purpose of the BTCA working/hunting certificate program is to identify Border Terriers that demonstrate instinctive working-terrier abilities and behavior (in traditional or non-traditional settings) in order to protect and preserve such qualities.

WORKING CERTIFICATE

The purpose of the Working Certificate (WC) is to demonstrate that the Border Terrier has the conformation, instincts, and courage to successfully work dangerous quarry in a traditional, natural setting underground.

- To earn a WC, a Border Terrier must enter the natural burrow of a formidable underground quarry (e.g. adult fox, otter, badger, raccoon, woodchuck or a specially approved species) without encouragement.
 - It is acceptable to remove stones, roots or debris from the entrance only so the dog can gain access. The dog must then disappear far enough down the burrow to be out of sight.
 - To qualify, the terrier must bolt or draw the quarry or bay steadily for three minutes. There must be no doubt that the terrier is right up to his quarry during marking.
 - After qualifying, he may be assisted by another dog. The hunters do not need to kill the quarry, but it should be exposed and positively identified.
 - Only one dog may be written up for each individual quarry animal-earth combination, and only one dog should be entered into an earth at a time.
- If two dogs are in the tunnel, neither can earn a WC.
- One witnessed example of acceptable work will be considered adequate to issue the WC.

FIELD GAME CERTIFICATE

The purpose of the Field Game Certificate (FGC) is to demonstrate that the Border Terrier has the instincts and courage to confront and attack dangerous earth-dwelling quarry in a nontraditional situation. This certificate includes dogs who may not be small enough to work underground, who do not have the opportunity to work underground, or who perform the function which is often called "draw dog" or "seizer dog".

- A Border Terrier which faces formidable quarry with courage and success is eligible for a FGC. To earn a FGC, the Border Terrier must hunt alone or in a pack (with earth-working dogs or hounds and face adult raccoon, fox, otter, badger, or woodchuck (or other specially approved species) in a situation other than that which would qualify for a WC. For example (but not limited to), quarry in a tree trunk, quarry in an artificial situation--under a barn floor, among hay bales, or quarry after having been dug to in a natural den.
- The dog must fearlessly face the quarry in a confined space, hold it steady for capture or dispatch, bolt it (away from, not past, the dog), or take hold and draw it or hold it for diggers. The dog should never give ground to the quarry.
- Once this dog has proven that he has controlled the situation, then another dog may be used for assistance during the final draw or dispatch. If two dogs are used, there must be no accidental or intentional biting of the partner by the applicant dog. He must not nip or bite a person.
- Only one dog may be written up for each individual quarry animal which is worked. The applicant dog must prove his value prior to another dog

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assisting, and the applicant must perform the qualifying behavior on at least four different (witnessed) occasions.

FIELD SPORTING CERTIFICATE

The purpose of the FSC is to demonstrate that the Border Terrier has the versatility and instinct to successfully adapt to locating, catching, retrieving, or, if appropriate, dispatching, nontraditional quarry for food, fur, vermin control, or scientific study in an above ground setting.

- Border Terriers are remarkably versatile sporting and hunting terriers. A Border Terrier may qualify for the FSC if he is used regularly for hunting above ground game or vermin.
- The quarry must be purposefully sought and the object should be to take the game for food or fur, to kill or capture vermin, or to collect for scientific study. Examples are flushing and retrieving upland birds, retrieving waterfowl, locating and capturing armadillos, treeing/spotting squirrels for shooting, and locating and killing rats, but many other kinds of hunting might qualify.
- The dog must demonstrate that it can locate the game/quarry for the hunter and make it possible for the hunter to successfully take the game. The dog should be able to kill the quarry itself when appropriate (rats, for example).
- On lead activities will not qualify.
- This hunting should be pursued regularly over at least one year or one full hunting season for controlled game animals.
- Unstructured or random chasing of wildlife without purpose will not be considered qualifying.

SELECTION OF THE BTCA REVIEW COMMITTEE:

The BTCA committee members shall have extensive experience hunting and working with Border Terriers. This experience will be used to evaluate the narratives for credibility and actual productiveness of the applicant dog. The members shall have earned more than two certificates on their own dogs.

At the outset of the program, AWTA Hunting and Working Certificates will meet this requirement, but after the first year, only BTCA Certificates shall qualify. Any qualified BTCA member is eligible for consideration, but appointments will be at the discretion of the BTCA Board of Directors.

A secretary for the Review Committee will be appointed by the Committee and may not be a member of the Committee while serving as secretary.

Changes to the Working Certificate program/policies shall be proposed by both the Committee and Committee Secretary and submitted to the BTCA Board of Directors for approval.

GRANDFATHERING OF PAST WORKERS

If a complete application for a certificate can be produced for a Border Terrier (active, retired, or dead) then the committee will review it as a current application. However, all criteria remain the same for all applications.

BTCA Membership: The owner and handler of dogs receiving these certificates are required to be BTCA members. Witnesses are not required to be BTCA members, and may be related to the owner or handler.

At most, one certificate of each kind can be awarded for a single dog.

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Application Process (Fall 2000 Version)

Where to get forms: Application forms for BTCA Working/Hunting Certificates can be obtained from the BTCA website, or by mail from the Working/Hunting Certificate Program Secretary, Geo. Moore, 5305 Yorktown Blvd., Arlington, VA 22207-1528.

(See the BTCA Website or the Borderline for the most current addresses, fees, etc.)

What to Submit:

1) Coversheet and photos (all applications). Each application (WC, FGC, or FSC) shall include a completed coversheet and at least one photograph showing the earth, quarry, and/or the dog to substantiate the narrative.

2) Hunt Narratives (1 for WC -- 4 for FGC):

3) Hunt Information and Season Summary (1 for FSC)

The submitted forms and photos become the property of the BTCA, and will not be returned.

How to Submit the Application:

- **Signature Copy:** The application shall be submitted in hardcopy (or as scanned images) with signatures.
- **Electronic Version (optional but encouraged):** As much of the application as possible should also be submitted in electronic form. However, this is not required. The Secretary (BorderTerrierWC@aol.com) can make sure you have needed electronic forms and instructions, on request (or see below).
- **Photos:** Please submit photos in color or black-and-white prints, preferably in 3x5" or 4x6" format. It is a good idea to write a brief description of each photo. (If you submit electronic images of the photos, see below, a hardcopy version is not required. Good quality photocopies of the photo are also acceptable.)
- **The application fee** specified by the BTCA should accompany each application. This fee covers the cost of copying and mailing applications to the committee, and the cost of the certificates. See the Borderline for current fees. At present, fees are:

for applications in hardcopy (or scanned) signatures and electronic format \$5.00 (*refundable if denied*).

for applications in hardcopy only (all materials) \$5.00 (*not refundable*).

How to submit an electronic application (this is entirely optional, but strongly encouraged):

1) Get electronic forms: The BTCA website includes a) word processor compatible ("RTF") and b) printable ("PDF") versions of the application forms. You may download them from this site. If you have trouble, the Secretary (BorderTerrierWC@aol.com) can E-mail them to you.

2) Make electronic forms:

a) by wordprocessor: The word processor compatible version of the application makes it very easy to fill out the forms on most office quality word processors that can handle tables. If you use this version fill out the forms on the computer, print the applications for signatures, and then submit the electronic version along with the hardcopy (or a scanned image of the hardcopy). Using this version of the form expedites application processing by several weeks and reduces your cost. **OR**

b) by scanning: If your word processor can't do this, you may also complete hardcopy forms by hand, and then scan the completed forms and submit them as images, if this is easier for you. (Scanning in B&W at about 150 pixels per inch should provide an adequate image that will be easy to E-Mail. If you scan the forms with signatures, and send those, hardcopy forms are not required.)

3) Make/Submit hardcopy or scanned images of forms with signatures.

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4) Scan photos, if possible: If you can scan the photos yourself, that would be appreciated, but this is not required to get the refundable application fee. Scanned images (including signature pages) should be at a resolution of about 150 pixels per inch and in an uncompressed format like "TIF" or "BMP".) If these images are later cropped or compressed to send them to the committee, you will receive a copy to make sure they still show what you intended.

5) You may send the electronic forms and images by E-mail to BorderTerrierWC@aol.com. Submission by regular mail on a 3.5" diskette is acceptable as well.

6) Mail hardcopy, of form(s) with signatures, if you didn't scan these, by regular mail, to
George C. Moore,
BTCA Working Titles Secretary,
5305 Yorktown Blvd.,
Arlington,
VA 22207-1528.
Phone (703) 534-5933