

Southwest Search Dogs shall have two levels of evaluators: primary evaluators and associate evaluators. All evaluators can evaluate tests. However, primary evaluators shall be responsible for selecting the location of the test, deciding on boundaries, and choosing the path and locations of the subjects. Both evaluators must agree in order to pass the team and certify that the team being tested has completed the requirements to a satisfactory level.

Only primary evaluators may do sign-offs, and primary evaluators have the discretion to countersign requirements they have not personally witnessed. Primary evaluators shall be appointed by the SWSD board of directors, and may be removed from those positions by the board of directors for any reason. The board of directors shall designate the disciplines for which the primary evaluators may test and do sign-offs.

Upon becoming field qualified in a discipline, a handler becomes an associate evaluator in that particular discipline.