

## ***The latest from the JGHV Director of Testing***

(Taken from *Der Jagdgebrauchshund*, 6/2019, translation by Ken Bremer)

### **The reasoning behind the predicate “excellent” 12 points or 4h**

The predicate "excellent" 12 points" may be awarded within the VZPO only for the subjects hare track, nose and independent search with duck in dense cover. For the VGP / VPS the predicate "excellent" 4 h" may be awarded for all subjects, except for all drags, retrieving and obedience subjects. In all cases the predicate "excellent" must be substantiated in writing.

See: § 6 (2) Judges' Meeting of the VZPO / VGPO. *After completion of the testing of all dogs, a final Judges' Meeting must take place, if judging was done in specialty subject groups (HZP), if the predicate "excellent" was awarded, if there were disagreements within a judging group or if special incidents occurred. If the predicate "excellent" (12) was awarded, this must be justified in writing by the Senior Judge of the judging group.*

This written explanation should be formulated so that it reflects the performance / predicate of the dog. This explanation should be written in such a way that everyone recognizes which achievement(s) were performed, which then led to the overall score of the predicate “excellent”. These explanatory texts should serve as important information to the breed club, but this is possible only if the reasons are correct and detailed contentwise, textually and technically. We certainly do not need novels, but the performance shown should clearly follow from the text and leave no doubt about the achievement. To clarify, text examples that just do not reflect the actual work.

1. Dog demonstrates several “excellent” hare tracks in the course of the day--  
**track 12**
2. Dog works a hare track to a length of 1.5 km and confirms this with “very good”--**track 12.**
3. Dog demonstrates “excellent” nose performance in the field and frequently finds different species of game--**Use of nose: 12 points**
4. Dog works through the entire water independently, finds the duck several times in heavy cover with “excellent” nose performance -**Independent duck search: 12 points**
5. Dog works the entire blood track independently to the game with both obtuse angles. **Blood track: 4 h**

My dear association judges, here I do not want to lay down any rules and not specify any texts or phrases for you. I just want to ask all of you to take the time and to write these explanatory texts cleanly and technically correct. After all, we are the experts, we saw the work performed and communicated the predicate to the handler. In fact, the judging group must only communicate in writing the statement given to the handler by the Senior Judge or spokesperson of the group in the field / water or in the forest. In the future, I ask all of you to write this explanation of the predicate in such a way that a third person can imagine when reading the text what the dog really achieved. Here are a few notes that should be included in the text using the example of the hare track.

*On what ground cover did the track work begin? Did the cover change? (crops, meadow, dry field) How was the course of the entire track? Were there obstacles to*

overcome in the track work? (street, dirt road, ditch, hedge, etc.) How was the wind during the entire track work (downwind, headwind or strong crosswinds) How was the moisture of the soil or the overall temperature? (dry, wet, warm, cool, sunny, cloudy) Were there diversions by other game (pheasant, passing roe deer or other hare tracks)? What accomplishment confirmed the "excellent" track work? Was it further "excellent" work, or "very good" work with 10 or 11 points.

Dear association judges, I certainly do not want to make any regulations for you and act like a schoolmaster but ask all of you to take some time with the explanatory statements and describe the work of the really highly talented dogs. By the predicate and a precisely correct and sound explanation, we highlight the work of the highly gifted dog. It serves our hunting and breeding. To review again, here are the excerpts on the uniform awarding of 12 points (VZPO) or the predicate 4h (VGPO / VPSO).

VZPO: The predicates "excellent" (= 12 points) and in the predicate area "very good" 11 points, which are important for breeding and genetic values, within the meaning of the VZPO and in terms of breeding and genetic values, **may be awarded only for really excellent or above average "very good" natural abilities.**

The predicate "excellent" 12 points may only be awarded if, in addition, at least one further piece of work has been performed in the area "very good" with at least 10 points. If the dog shows one or more pieces of work with a lower score before or after, 12 points may not be awarded.

Important note: There is no confirmation for the subject "independent search with duck in dense cover" - no further work!

VGPO / VPSO: The predicate "excellent" = 4h may only be awarded as an exception for truly outstanding achievements that the dog has shown under difficult circumstances. Awarding this for drags, retrieving and obedience subjects is not allowed. The granting of this predicate must be justified in each individual case on the scoresheet (Form 7 VGP) or (Form 10 VPS), a simple entry is not sufficient. If this is not done, the registrar (Stammbuchführer) must enter the number 4 on the scoresheet of the DGStB.

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