

The BOXER CLUB USA TheEndA - (Endurance-A Exam)

TheEndA - (Endurance-A Exam) is not a training title. It is a physical test for our BOXERs. Although we do not limit entry to any particular breed of dog it is primarily used for dogs in our breeding pool. The details of the test are explained below.

Open to all registered boxers of the BC-USA that are at least 16 months of age on day of examination with no exception. Handlers must present BC-USA registration book & copy of registration certificate, and tattoo for identification.

These criteria must be verified by the judge before beginning the endurance-B Examination and after.

A) GENERAL

1. Purpose: This endurance/temperament Exam provides evidence that the dog is able to perform physical exertion to a certain degree without afterwards showing significant symptoms of fatigue and loss of character. The BOXER is a working dog. They must be able to handle strenuous work. The required strain on the physical condition of any dog can only come from running exercises. Running places increased demands on the inner organs, especially the heart and lungs and likewise on the organs of movement themselves. It also tests other characteristics, such as drive, temperament, focus and toughness. The ability to endure is evidence of physical health and the presence of desired breeding characteristics. These are essential for a working dog such as the BOXER.

2. Eligibility: The minimum age for admission to the EndA - (Endurance-A Exam) test is 16 months. It is therefore not a test for young dogs & puppies. The maximum age for admission is 7 years. Dogs entering this exam must be completely healthy and in good condition. Ill dogs, dogs without sufficient strength, bitches in heat, and pregnant or nursing bitches will not be admitted. The officiating judge must be satisfied that the dog is in good condition. Dogs which give an impression of fatigue are to be deferred from participating.

3. Evaluation: Points are not awarded, but only "Passed" or "Failed". A dog which passes will have EndA endorsed on their BCUSA pedigree or scorebook.

4. Terrain: Insofar as possible the test shall be conducted on roads and paths. Asphalted and unpaved streets and paths are suitable but not preferred.



B) HOLDING THE ENDURANCE TEST

Completion of a distance of 10 at a pace of 12 to 15 km/hour [5.4 to 8.3 miles per hour].

1. The run: The dog must gait at a brisk but natural trot, never in full gallop and on a lead (in accordance with street traffic rules) on the right side of the handler who is on a bicycle (rollerblades are permissible). A sprint or gallop is to be avoided. Light pulling on the lead is not penalized but constant lagging behind of the dog is. After the dogs have completed 6 miles, there is a 15 minute health check break. During this time, the judge observes the dogs for possible signs of fatigue. Severely fatigued dogs are to be deferred from further testing. After the first break, the dogs travel an additional 4 miles. After completion of the running exercise the dogs are checked for signs of severe fatigue and possible sore paws.

2. The Attack on Handler: After reaching the 9th mile of the test, at the judge's direction, the handler, with his dog at heel, takes up position. After being called, every BOXER, has to show the ability to protect his handler under an attack. The exercise takes place with the dog at the handlers side on a bike. Protection scenario will be a brief encounter to test dog's character during fatigue stages of the exam. The threat will be done by a man using a sleeve (hidden sleeve and suit maybe worn if requested by the judge). The attacker will move forward in an aggressive manner towards the team from close proximity. No Weapons of any kind will be used, no Gunfire will be used. The man may aggress from a crowd, a covering; bush or building natural to the environment and even a car. Sport Blinds maybe used but not preferred. The attacker must never begin his aggression closer than 15 yards. The attack will be initiated by Judges signal. BOXER will be evaluated on reaction time, courage displayed on entry and engagement. The attacker will retreat immediately after committed contact has been made by the dog. Boxer dog is expected to hold on to aggressor until handler either recalls him off or takes him off the attacker. The team is expected to immediately resume finishing the last mile of the run. If team can not resume the run due to fatigue or lack of cooperation by dog who continues to focus on the attacker, they will be deferred from the exam. Judge will allot reasonable time for team to re-compose themselves and finish the run. This time allotted is up to judge's discretion. Excessive physical corrections or verbal corrections will not be tolerated and will lead to team deferral.



The judge's focus points will be on the following:

1. Evaluation of 10 mile run:

- Overall movement.
- Physical condition & performance during exam.
- Strengths & weaknesses during exam.
- Ease of handling during exam.
- Reaction to traffic & environment.

2. Procedure/Handling protocol

Initial 6 miles will be done at handler's side while handler leads on bicycle. The pace should be done at a steady, brisk gait, never a gallop or full run. Dog should be at heel position at either side of handler but must always remain under control as to give the impression of accompaniment. The initial 6 mile run will be followed by a 12-15 minute health check-break. Dog may be offered water at this point and will be examined by Judge for signs of fatigue or injury. The second stage of the run will be for the remaining 4 miles with protection test being at the 9th mile marker.

Equipment allowed is a leash no longer than 6 ft. , made of leather, and on a flat collar, steel training collars of any kind or e-collars will not be permitted.

3. Protection Work:

- Speed & power on entry.
- Engagement and grip.
- Over all control.
- Recovery-focus on handler to continue the run.
- Physical condition after the engagement.

4. Pass or Fail procedures

Dogs passing must have tattoo viewed and confirmed by judge after the exam. On completion of the test the judge awards a pass or fail to each dog and endorses the result on his pedigree or in his score book. Passing dogs will have earned the right to use the BOXER CLUB-USA abbreviation of EndA after their name in all official BC-USA certificates and listings.

Dogs may fail due to any of the following reasons: Any dog that is not under control or poses a threat to the public will be excused from the exam. Dogs exhibiting any signs of fatigue during the exam will be immediately excused. For the health and safety of the dog the Judge's ruling on these matters is final.

