

PROCESS FOR TESTING DOG PAIRS WHILE WALKING

Try and take your time. Spend at least 10-15 minutes separated from each other and longer if the situation and time allows. The more data we have the better we can judge the relationship of the pairs. Always remember: Describe observable behavior - things you see and not things you feel.

Get a buddy and take both dogs out for a walk together in the park:

- What type of distance do the dogs keep from each other?
- Do the dogs make contact? In what way? (eye contact, nuzzle each other, parallel walk, etc.)

After walking for a while together, walk the dogs to the south end of the lake and separate.

One walker will walk clockwise and one walker will walk counter-clockwise:

- Do they try and stay with the other dog?
- Do they keep looking behind for the other dog? Search for the other dog?
- Do they show signs of stress (lip licking, panting, yawning, whining, etc.)
- Do they increase their contact/proximity to you?
- Does their walking style change?

Do some focus exercises (sit, down, give them treats) and observe how they relate to you:

- Do they have good focus?
- Do they accept treats and physical contact?
- Do they make eye contact?
- Does dog appear to be stressed and/or show the need to leave?

Walk to the north end of the lake (airplane field) and reunite the dogs:

- Once they can see each other again, do they react?
- How do they react? At what distance exactly?
- Do they greet each other? How?

Walk them back to the kennel together and observe behavior:

- Do they seek close contact?
- Walk parallel?
- Pay attention to each other? etc.

Put them back into kennel and observe how they settle in there:

- Do they stay close together, lay down in different parts of the kennel, etc.

Email observations with dog names and ID#s to paccpals@gmail.com. Please do not enter your notes about the evaluation into Chameleon; PACC Pals will enter appropriate memos into Chameleon. Thank you.