



OBJECTIVES OF THIS NON-COMPETITIVE GAME

The dog and handler combine what they have learnt from the Dog-Games Recall, Bounce, and Touch. The dog learns to run up and touch a Touch Box with its paw over a distance of approximately 51ft (15.3m), jumping four 8" (20cm) hurdles both on its way to the box, and on its way back.

The handler learns –

- To bring all their experience of training their dog to do the previous Games, and use this knowledge to help it understand how to do a send-away to the Touch Box and jump the hurdles at the same time.
- That dogs can become so focused on the Touch Box and do such a wide turn from it that they need help from their handlers to realise that the hurdles need to be jumped as the dog returns. This is done by careful attention to the handler's movements and their judgement of the dog's speed and direction.

The dog learns –

- Once it has touched the Touch Box, to adjust and correct its turning curve and eyesight so that it can run back over the four hurdles without missing any and return to the handler.

STAGES (See the website for full details on how to train each stage, also please refer to the paragraph in the box on either the Recall or Bounce leaflet)

*** Each test or training session should not be more than five attempts, and a rest period of at least an hour should be allowed if a dog is doing more than one test/training session in a day (see "Latent Learning" on the Understanding your Dog section of the website)**

STARTERS (The dog learns how to do the Game)

Cert. 1 The dog learns to run and touch the Touch Box 25ft (7.5m) from the handler, over first one hurdle, then eventually two. It must do **three out of five attempts correctly** over the two hurdles before progressing on to Starters Level Two*.

Cert. 2 The handler gradually moves further back adding the third and then the fourth hurdle until they are 51ft (15.3m) from the Touch Box with the four hurdles between them. The dog must do **three out of five** correct Bounce & Touch runs to pass this stage*. A dark blue, yellow and white rosette will be awarded by Dog-Games when the dog has achieved Bounce & Touch Starters Certificates 1 and 2. .

BRONZE (Learns to do the Game consistently while running in different directions in the training lane)

A Bounce & Touch Bronze Certificate will be awarded for each successful session of **five out of five** correct Bounce & Touch runs*. The handler and trainer/helper should stand at alternate ends of the training lane for each certificate (eg. cert 1 & 3 left to right, cert 2 right to left) so that the dog becomes used to doing Bounce & Touch in different directions within the environment. A dark blue, yellow and bronze rosette will be awarded by Dog-Games when the dog has achieved **3 Bronze certificates**.

SILVER** (Learns to do the Game with the distraction of other dogs nearby in another lane)

A Bounce & Touch Silver Certificate will be awarded for each successful session of **five out of five** correct Bounce & Touch runs*, despite the distraction of the other dog(s) running in a netted lane nearby. A dark blue, yellow and silver rosette will be awarded by Dog-Games when the dog has achieved **all 3 Silver certificates**.

Cert. 1 Dog does Bounce & Touch while another dog doing Dog-Games is **released at the same time** nearby in another lane.

Cert. 2 Dog does Bounce & Touch while another dog is **returning from its 51ft marker** in a nearby lane.

Cert. 3 Dog does Recall while one or more dogs run in **various directions** doing DOG-GAMES in the other lane.

GOLD (Learns to do the Game while another dog is playing the Game in the same lane)

A Bounce & Touch Gold Certificate will be awarded for each successful session of **five out of five** correct Bounce & Touch runs*, while another dog plays Bounce & Touch in the same lane. If possible, a different distraction dog should be used for each certificate. A dark blue, yellow and gold rosette will be awarded when the dog has achieved all 3 Gold certificates.

PLATINUM (Learns to do the Game everywhere)

The dog repeats a Gold Certificate at **three different venues** so that the dog understands that it must do the Game not only at the training ground but at these other distracting locations as well. A Bounce & Touch Platinum Certificate will be awarded for each successful session of **five out of five** correct Bounce & Touch runs*, despite the distraction of the new venue and the other dogs. A four-tier dark blue and yellow rosette and a silver-plated salver trophy will be awarded by Dog-Games when the dog has achieved **all 3 Platinum certificates**.

****In Silver, plastic netting should be used between lanes in the interests of dog safety**