



 **THE  
UNDERDOG**

# BASICS

## What is AKC Fetch?

AKC Fetch is a pass-fail noncompetitive test. The four levels of titles assess the ability of the dog to retrieve a ball or bumper. Toys may be used in the Novice and Intermediate levels.

## Who Can Participate?

Dogs of any breed or mixed breed who are at least 6 months of age are eligible to take the AKC Fetch test as long as they are registered or enrolled with AKC and have an AKC, PAL, or AKC Canine Partners number.

Dogs with blindness or other disabilities are welcome to participate, see “Disabilities”.

Bitches in season may be tested as the last dog(s) at the end of the day.

## Appropriate Gear

### CLICKERS

Not permitted

### DOG CLOTHING & COSTUMES

Dogs may wear coats in cold weather. Dogs may not wear clothes or costumes in the test.

### COLLARS, HARNESES, LEASHES

Dogs may wear slip collars, buckle collars, and Martingales. They may not wear prong collars, e-collars, head collars, muzzles, or body harnesses.

Dogs **must be leashed** until it is their turn to run.

## Corrections

In the AKC Fetch test, handlers may talk to their dogs, but not excessively. There should be no leash corrections. Depending on the severity of the correction, the Evaluator may give the handler a reminder or may dismiss the handler.

## Course Design

The course for the AKC Fetch test varies per level. There is no practicing allowed on the test field. See the following pages for course guidelines.

## Disabilities

Accommodations will be made for disabilities (both people and dogs). Please inform us of your disability and needed accommodations at [woof@theunderdogtraining.com](mailto:woof@theunderdogtraining.com) at least 48 hours before the event.

## Disqualifications

If a dog exhibits aggressive behavior (e.g., biting) during the AKC Fetch test, you will be dismissed immediately. You may receive DQ forms.

## Titles

Dogs must pass each level **two times** at two separate events (two separate event numbers) under two different judges **to earn a title**.

Fetch titles must be **earned in order**. This means a dog cannot start testing at the Advanced or Retriever level without having passed Novice and Intermediate.

# NOVICE

## TITLE: FTN

**Distance** 30 Feet

**Retrieves**

- 3 Singles
  - 1 to the left
  - 1 to the center
  - 1 to the right

**Obstacles**

4 boxes, crates, or similar at least 14" tall.

**Object**

Ball, bumper, or toy

**Restarts**

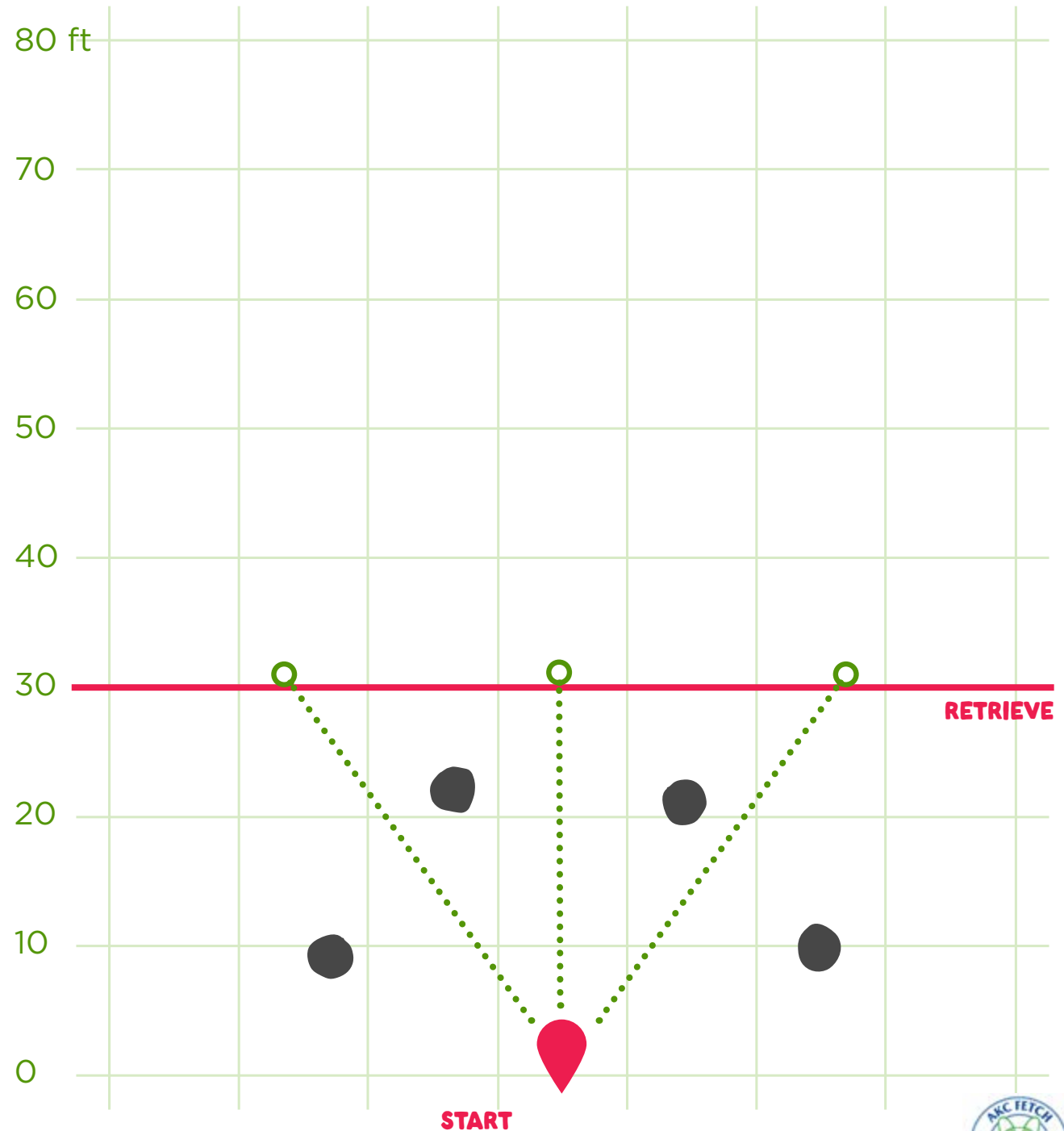
2

**The Send**

May hold collar

**Return**

Must come within 2 large steps of handler. May give or drop.



# INTERMEDIATE

## TITLE: FTI

**Distance** 50 Feet

**Retrieves**

- 4 Singles
- 1 to the left
  - 1 to the center
  - 1 to the right
  - 1 to the left or right (handler's choice)

**Obstacles**

8 boxes, crates, or similar at least 14" tall.

**Object**

Ball, bumper, or toy

**Restarts**

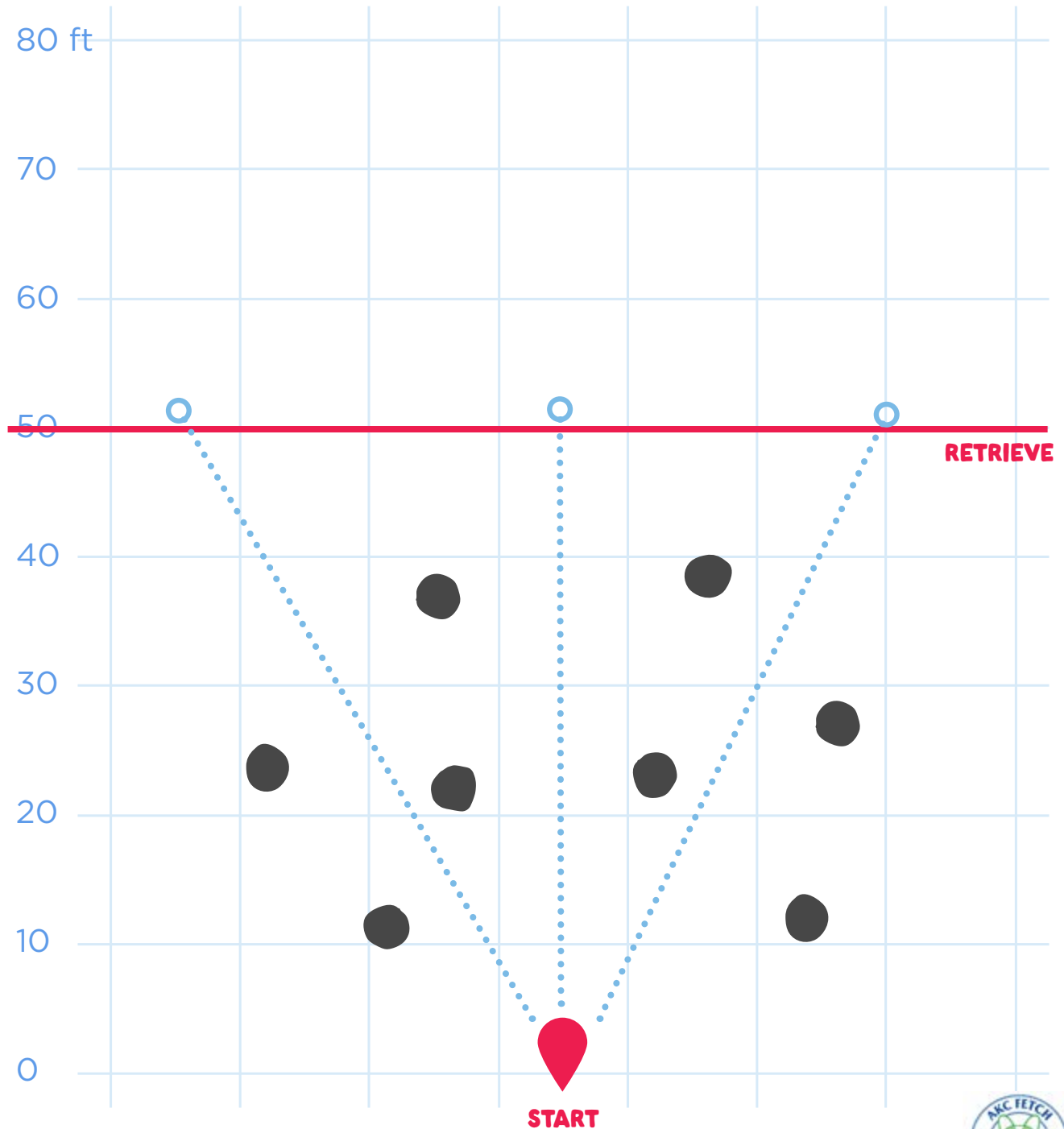
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**The Send**

May hold collar with 1 finger.

**Return**

Handler takes from dog or dog delivers to hand.





# ADVANCED

## TITLE: FTA

**Distance** 70 Feet

**Retrieves**

- 2 Singles  ○
- 1 to the center
  - 1 to the left or right (handler's choice)
- 2 Doubles  ○
- Helper drops 2 bumpers: each one behind its own blind.
  - Handler calls what order the dog will retrieve the 2 bumpers.
  - Handler sends dog to retrieve.
  - **Retrieval must be in order handler called.**

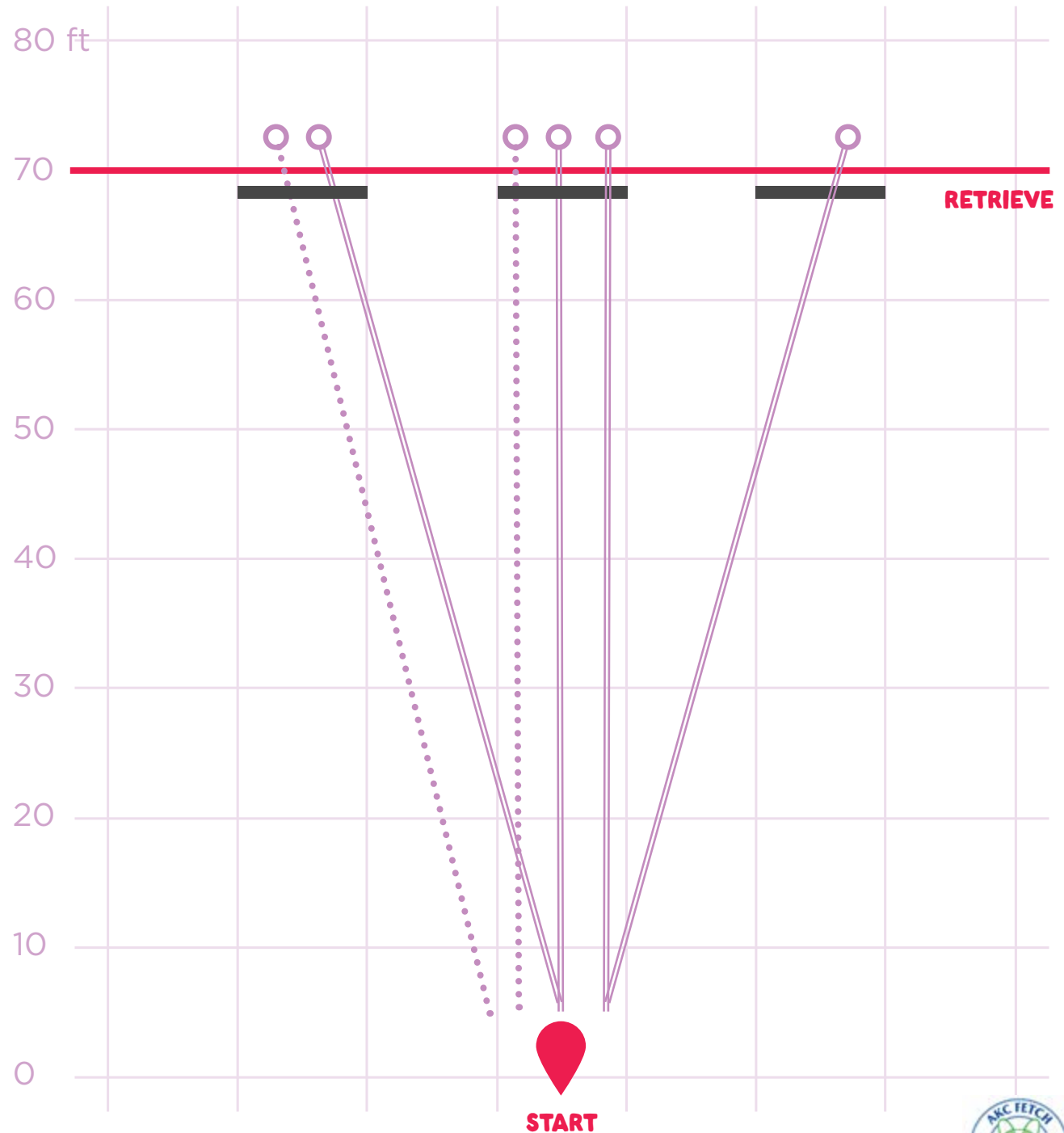
**Obstacles** 3 Blinds

**Object** Ball or bumper **only**  
No toys

**Restarts** 1

**The Send** No holding collar.

**Return** Handler takes from dog or dog delivers to hand.



# RETRIEVER

TITLE: FTR

**Distance** 80 Feet

2 Doubles 

- Helper drops 2 bumpers: each one behind its own blind.
- Handler calls what order the dog will retrieve the 2 bumpers.
- Handler sends dog to retrieve.

**Retrieves**

- **Retrieval must be in order handler called.**

1 Triple 

- Helper drops 3 bumpers: one behind its own blind.
- Retrieving instructions are the same as the Double.

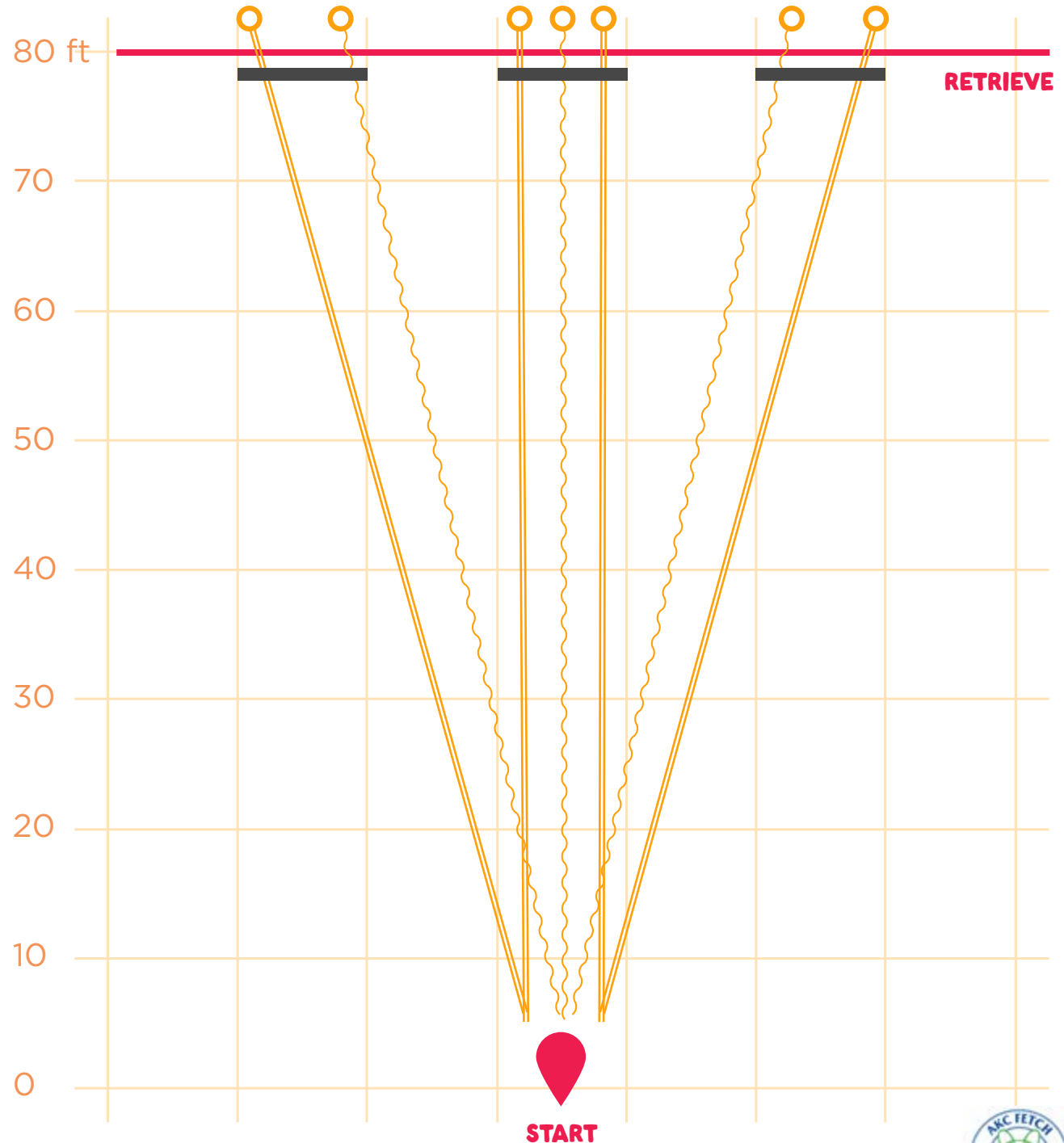
**Obstacles** 3 Blinds

**Object** Ball or bumper **only**  
No toys

**Restarts** 1

**The Send** No holding collar

**Return** Handler takes from dog or dog delivers to hand.



# COMPARISON CHART

	NOVICE FTN	INTERMEDIATE FTI	ADVANCED FTA	RETRIEVER FTR
<b>Distance</b>	30 Feet	50 Feet	70 Feet	80 Feet
<b>Retrieves</b>	3 Singles	4 Singles	2 Singles 2 Doubles	2 Doubles 1 Triple
<b>Obstacles</b>	4, at least 14" tall	8, at least 14" tall	3 Blinds, at least 10' x 2'	3 Blinds, at least 10' x 2'
<b>Object</b>	Ball, bumper, or toy	Ball, bumper, or toy	Ball or bumper <b>only</b> No toys	Ball or bumper <b>only</b> No toys
<b>Restarts</b>	2	2	1	1
<b>The Send</b>	May hold collar.	May hold collar with 1 finger.	No holding collar.	No holding collar
<b>Return</b>	Must come within 2 large steps of handler. May give or drop.	Must come within 1 large steps of handler. May give or drop.	Handler takes from dog or dog delivers to hand.	Handler takes from dog or dog delivers to hand.
<b>Number of Times to Pass</b>	2	2	2	2