



AMERICAN RETTUNGSHUNDE SPORT ASSOCIATION

SEARCH & RESCUE SPORT (IPO-R)

Interested in having fun with your dog?

Want to demonstrate its working ability and even earn international titles?

But struggling to find the right venue because your dog is

- a rare, emerging, or non-AKC breed
- a dog with an unknown pedigree, mixed breed, or crossbreed

Consider the search & rescue sport (IPO-R), an internationally recognized companion sport that allows dogs to earn titles, regardless of pedigree or intact status.



Akiya, Catahoula/GSD mix

IPO-R is an FCI-recognized sport that lets dog/handler teams practice and compete in skills useful in operational SAR. The sport has two phases – a search phase and an obedience/dexterity (OB/Dex) phase. You can trial in a search phase without the OB/Dex phase, or in OB/Dex without a search phase.



Chom Chom, Phú Quốc Ridgeback

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Ucon, Dutch Shepherd Mix

The Phases

Search Phase

You have a choice of 6 possible search types

- Tracking
- Area search
- Rubble search
- Mantrailing
- Water rescue
- Avalanche search

Obedience /Dexterity Phase

OB exercises include heeling, recalls, position changes, stays, tunnel – all common to many dog sports. Several unique exercises for SAR work include walking an unstable plank, crossing a ladder, and directability at distance, where the handler sends the dog to a series of tables.

Visit our website at searchandrescuesport.org or contact ARSA.clubs@gmail.com to learn more!