

Avalanche Written Test Study Guide

This guide outlines topics covered by NSDA's written exam for the Avalanche Test, which is pre-requisite to the Avalanche Field Test and a required component of the certification process for K9 Avalanche Teams. Handlers are required to successfully complete NSDA's Discipline prerequisites Test prior to taking the Avalanche Test . A study guide for the Discipline prerequisites Exam is available on the NSDA web site.

Handlers wanting Avalanche certification should be knowledgeable in the following topics:

- **Safety considerations for the Team and the Search Operation**
- **Factors influencing Scent dispersal**
- **Importance of the PLS**
- **Training protocols for Avalanche work**
- **Factors affecting success in Avalanche Searches**
- **Dog selection and training for Avalanche work**
- **Importance of scent articles**

References

"Avalanche Essentials: A Step by Step System for Safety and Survival ", by Bruce Temper, 2013

"The Avalanche Handbook", by David McClung and Peter Schaerer, 2006

"Avalanche! The Care and Training of the Avalanche Search and Rescue Dogs", by Patti Burnett, 2003

"Avalanche Handbook", by USDA Forest Service, 1975