

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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STANDING ORDERS OF THE FCI



19 October 2015

STANDING ORDERS

Article 1 - Membership and partnership application requirements

The application for membership or partnership must be accompanied by a certified copy of the statutes and the rules of the applicant organisation and a copy of the instrument granting it authority within the framework of its country or a certificate from the competent national authorities, indicating the legal form accorded to the body by its country. The application shall, among other things, also contain the following declarations:

- (a) The organization applying undertakes to comply with the statutes, the standing orders and the decisions of the FCI General Committee and FCI General Assembly
- (b) The organization applying undertakes to comply with all the FCI rules and regulations.

Article 2 - General Assembly voting and election procedures

a) Voting

In case of a non-secret vote, each member eligible to vote will either use a voting card clearly stating the name of the country or, if decided by the General Assembly, the Executive Director will call out each member.

b) Elections

- An election committee is to be nominated at each General Assembly.
- This committee consists of 3 persons who are not eligible for election.
- This committee and the FCI Executive Director are responsible for distributing collecting and counting the voting ballots.
- After the election, all voting ballots are to be held in safe place at the FCI Secretariat General for a period of 90 days in a sealed envelope and can be inspected, on request, by the individuals who stood for election.

Article 3 - General Committee

1.

The General Committee shall meet at least twice a year. If the Executive Committee considers it necessary, the General Committee may meet more often. An additional meeting shall take place on the day before the FCI General Assembly.

2.

The date and venue of the next meeting shall, if possible, be decided at each meeting. If important and unforeseen circumstances make it necessary, the date and venue of a meeting can be changed (with the agreement of the President) providing there is time to notify all the members of the General Committee.

3.

Invitations to the General Committee meetings shall be issued by the Executive Director on behalf of the President. They shall be sent out in writing latest one month before the date of the meeting. The Executive Committee shall prepare the agenda. The members of the General Committee may add points to the agenda if this is made necessary after the last meeting of the Executive Committee. The members of the General Committee shall inform the Executive Director in due time of the topics that should appear on the agenda.

4.

All the General Committee meetings shall be attended by the Executive Director, who shall take the minutes. The minutes shall be written in English and sent to the members of the General Committee latest one month after the meeting. The translations of the minutes into the other official working languages of the FCI shall be made available as soon as possible.

Should the Executive Director be unable to attend a meeting, he must be replaced by another qualified person, who is to take the minutes.

5.

The Executive Director shall keep records in which he must note the date and the resolutions approved by the General Committee. These records will be available for inspection by General Committee members on request.

6.

The minutes of the previous meeting must be approved by the General Committee. The original minutes must be signed by the President and the Executive Director and distributed to the member organisations no later than 60 days after the approval.

Article 4 - Executive Committee

1.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year.

2.

The date and venue of the next meeting shall, if possible, be decided at each meeting.

3.

Invitations to the Executive Committee meetings shall be issued by the Executive Director on behalf of the President. They shall be sent out in writing latest one month before the date of the meeting.

The President and the Executive Director shall prepare the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee can add points to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

4.

All the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be attended by the Executive Director, who shall take the minutes. The minutes shall be written in English and sent to the members of the Executive Committee latest one month after the meeting.

Should the Executive Director be unable to attend a meeting, he must be replaced by another qualified person, who is to take the minutes.

5.

The Executive Director shall keep records in which he must note the date and the resolutions approved by the Executive Committee. These records will be available for inspection, on request, by General Committee members.

6.

The minutes of the previous meeting must be approved by the Executive Committee. The original minutes must be signed by the President and the Executive Director.

7.

The President and the Executive Director shall meet as often as necessary.

Article 5 - Members

The national canine organisations (FCI members and contract partners) and their members are under a mutual obligation not to interfere in each other's respective cynological matters.

Article 6 – Recognition of new breeds

New breeds can be recognised by the FCI. The recognition comprises two phases: provisional and definitive recognition.

The procedure for the recognition of a breed (provisional and definitive) is set out in the attached appendix (no. 1) and must be approved by the General Assembly.

Article 7 – Breed standards

1.

The members must provide the General Committee with a list of their national breeds and their respective breed standards in at least one of the FCI official working languages.

The breed standards must be written according to the model adopted by the FCI, i.e. the so-called "Jerusalem format" (see appendix no. 2). The General Secretariat will take care of the translations into the official FCI working languages.

2.

A new or modified breed standard will become effective from the date of its publication in at least one of the official working languages of the FCI. The date of publication of the original breed standard in force (on the second page of the breed standard) corresponds to the date of the General Committee meeting at which the (new or amended) breed standard was approved.

The General Secretariat shall be responsible for such publication. The date of publication appears on the first page of the breed standard.

3.

The Standards Commission must be consulted before a new or amended breed standard is approved and if there is any doubt, particularly in case of an application for recognition of a new breed, the advice of the Scientific Commission must be sought.

4.

It is incumbent on the General Committee to approve applications for the provisional recognition of new breeds.

In addition, the amendments to the existing breed standards and the breed standards of the breeds to be recognised on a provisional basis are also approved by the General Committee upon request of the members which are responsible for the breed standards in question and after having been examined by the Standards Commission and, if necessary and specially in case of new breeds, by the Scientific Commission. New breed standards shall be based on the standard from the country of origin or country of patronage. The breeds to be recognised on a definitive basis and their respective standards are approved by the General Assembly.

It is incumbent to the FCI members and contract partners to ensure that their judges are acquainted with the new breed standards or the amendments to the breed standards as quickly as possible.

Article 8 - Stud Books

1.

Every member and contract partner must keep a studbook for all the breeds recognised by the FCI. They also have to keep an appendix to the studbook.

For a dog to be eligible for entry in a studbook or appendix, its breeder / owner must have his legal residence in the country where the dog will be registered.

The breeds recognised on a provisional basis are to be registered in the appendix. The pedigrees issued to the dogs of breeds not recognised by the FCI cannot bear the FCI logo or must carry the remark "breed not recognised by the FCI".

2.

The members and contract partners shall exclusively and reciprocally recognize each other's studbooks, including the appendixes.

An updated list of the initials of the various studbooks will be published by the FCI Secretariat General.

The studbook of each FCI member and contract partner is to be made available to the organisations recognised by the FCI for possible research purposes

3.

On the original pedigrees, the studbook registration number should follow the initials of the studbook in which the dog is registered (e.g.: SHSB/LOS : n° 255 333); in addition the registration numbers and the initials should be provided for at least three generations. ***The type of coat, the colour and the size variety should be added on the pedigrees, including the export pedigrees.***

The official titles of the FCI must appear on the pedigrees and the national titles awarded by FCI members and contract partners can be recorded.

4.

In the case of dogs coming from countries which have no FCI member or contract partner or with which no agreement exists for the recognition of pedigrees, the members and contract partners as well as the breed clubs commissioned by them can, notwithstanding the above provision 2, register a dog with a non-recognised pedigree in an appendix to the studbook once this dog has been examined by a judge approved for the breed in question; its breeding, from the fourth generation, can be entered in the studbook. The same applies to dogs without any pedigree.

5.

Any member or contract partner can refuse to (re-)register in its studbook, ***or alternatively can (re-)register with a "limited registration: not to be used for breeding"***, a dog suffering from hereditary defects or featuring defects which go against the Article 2 of the statutes or a dog which does not comply with the rules of selection defined by the member or contract partner in question.

In addition, the members and contract partners are not obliged to automatically register or re-register an imported dog in their studbook if they consider the pedigree to have been prepared incorrectly. In that case, the member and contract partners should clearly explain to the member which issued the certified export pedigree the reason for their denying.

6.

In the countries where the FCI members and contract partners have breed clubs which keep their own studbooks on behalf of their national canine organization, it must be clearly indicated on the pedigrees that these breed clubs are members of a national canine organisation.

7.

Pedigrees have official validity for the FCI members and contract partners.

8.

On issuing a pedigree, obvious, definitive and identifiable deviations from coat colours specified by the breed standard are to be clearly stated. Each dog of a litter has to be provided with only one pedigree and only one export pedigree, which ***should*** include the name of the owner of the dog; ***if the owner's name is not written on the pedigree,***

a separate owner's certificate must be issued by the national canine organisation. In addition, there must be one responsible person for the ownership of a dog. This person has to be the first in the list of owners.

9.

When a dog is sold abroad, the national canine organisation must issue a certified export pedigree written in one of the four official FCI languages. It is however, forbidden, to issue an export pedigree to a dog which is not identified by tattoo or micro-chip.

A dog registered in the appendix of a studbook can be issued an export registration certificate for the purpose of being re-registered in another appendix to a studbook.

For each dog registered with an FCI member or contract partner and then exported, the national canine organisation that last registered the dog shall certify the transfer of ownership to the new owner by stating his name and address on the export pedigree ***or by issuing a separate owners' certificate.***

10.

The national canine organisations and their breed clubs may not make any alteration or change any information about the dog already registered in a recognised studbook.

The original registration number and the initials of the studbook must appear on all documents containing cynological information (working tests programmes, show catalogues, pedigrees, registration forms) beside the new studbook registration number.

11.

When a dog is sold abroad, the new studbook registration number and initials of the new studbook must be recorded on the original export pedigree. This information is to be certified by the stamp and signature of the national canine organisation which keeps the studbook.

It is forbidden to issue a new pedigree to an imported dog.

12.

The members and the contract partners must provide specimens of the pedigrees valid in their own country to the FCI Secretariat General. All the members and contract partners must be informed immediately by the FCI Secretariat General of any alteration to a pedigree.

13.

The pedigrees issued by a member or a contract partner must be accepted by all the members and contract partners as "documents proving that the pups are born of purebred parents from the same breed". The members and contract partners are, however, allowed to make use of point 5 above. These pedigrees cannot be rescinded by a member or a contract partner under any circumstances.

14.

The members and contract partners are not obliged to register in their studbooks and to issue pedigrees to pups produced as a result of mating of parents which do not meet the FCI breed standards.

Article 9 - Kennel names

1.

All members must apply to the FCI Secretariat General for the registration of new kennel names in the international FCI Kennel Name Register. A national canine organisation is allowed to apply for such registration exclusively for the breeders who have their legal residence in the country in question. The FCI recognises kennel name co-ownership. However, in this case, it must be confirmed -per litter- which person in the joint venture is officially responsible for adherence to national and international regulations in all matters concerning breeding and studbook registration.

2.

The members and contract partners recognise the kennel names registered by the other members and contract partners.

3.

The FCI is responsible for strict control of the international register so as to avoid any double use or any name likely to create confusion.

4.

The following provisions shall govern the granting and use of kennel names:

- a) Dogs cannot bear a kennel name other than that of their breeder. Deemed to be the breeder is the owner of the bitch at the time of mating. When a pregnant bitch is sold, the seller's written permission must be obtained before the purchaser's kennel name can be given to the pups
- b) A dog's name and kennel name cannot be altered once they have been officially recorded.
- c) A national canine organisation can add the FCI registered kennel name on the pedigrees if the breed in question is recognised by the national canine organisation issuing the pedigree and/or by the FCI.
- d) A breeder cannot register more than one kennel name for all the breeds bred by him.
- e) A kennel name is granted to one individual and is valid for life unless it ceases to be used or unless the holder of the kennel name gives it up in writing. As a general rule, it ceases to be valid on the death of the individual to whom it has been granted. The national canine organisation can authorize the assignment of a kennel name to a breeder's successor once that party's rights of succession have been duly established. The holder of a kennel name can include his or her spouse, descendants or relatives as associates in the management of the kennel providing they are at least eighteen years old. The original holder of the kennel name remains the representative of the breeding activity.

Breeding associations of two or more persons must apply for their own joint kennel name; the above rules apply. The FCI must be notified of any changes in the composition of the association.

All other matters shall be governed by the provisions of the relevant national canine organisation. Each breeder is required, prior to migrating to another country where the FCI has a member or contract partner, to notify the member or the contract partner that registered the kennel name so that the transfer can be done correctly.

The conditions under which a kennel name is to be used are based on an agreement between the national canine organisation and the breeder(s).

The use of a kennel name after separation or divorce requires the former owners of the kennel name to provide legal declarations making it clear who is to continue to use it. In this case the kennel name can be transferred to new holder(s) if he/they complies(y) with the requirements of the national canine organisation for kennel name holders.

If a complaint is made to a national canine organisation, the kennel name in question cannot be used until the national canine organisation has communicated the confirmation to the holder of the kennel name.

- f) The kennel names recognised by the FCI have precedence over the kennel names recognised only at national level.

Further to a complaint from the owner of a kennel name registered with the FCI, a kennel name recognised at national level will be rescinded at the FCI's request if it harms the kennel name recognised by the FCI due to the similarity of the names. From January 1st 2006 the members and contract partners are not allowed anymore to register kennel names at national level exclusively.

Article 10 - Events

International

The International all-breed shows and international trials **where** FCI awards (CACIB, CACIT, CACIAG, CACIL, CACIOB) are granted come under the aegis of the FCI. All documents and catalogues related to the above events must carry the FCI logo. The FCI logo must also be visible at all these events.

Any admissible complaint concerning these events is to be first considered by the organisers before possibly being examined by the FCI General Committee. Complaints relating to judges are to be examined by the national canine organisations which authorised the judges in question to officiate at these events. Complaints against the judging are not acceptable.

National

- a) **No CAC (Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat - Championship Certificate) proposal** can be given by an FCI member/contract partner on the occasion of shows held **in** the territory of another FCI member/contract partner, **not even on the basis of an agreement or contract between these FCI members/contract partners.**

b) The title of national champion of an FCI member/contract partner has to be obtained with at least 2 CAC gained at shows held in the territory of this specific country unless the dog already is a national champion of another FCI member/contract partner.

Any admissible complaint concerning these events is to be considered by the organisers. Complaints relating to judges are to be examined by the national canine organisations which authorised the judges in question to officiate at these events. Complaints against the judging are not acceptable.

Article 11 - Judges

1.

The members and contract partners are responsible for training and examining (in accordance with the FCI regulations) the judges who will be authorised to award CACIB, CACIT, CACIAG, CACIOB and CACIL. Only such judges can be recognised by the FCI, its members and contract partners.

2.

A judge can appear on the judges' list of a member or contract partner only if he has his legal residence in the country in which this member or this contract partner has its head office. Furthermore, a judge can appear on one FCI judges' list only.

The members and contract partners must publish their updated judges' list (name, address, email, phone number, qualifications, languages spoken) on their Internet website. In addition, this updated list has to be sent to the FCI General Secretariat every year.

It is up to the members and the contract partners to decide whether or not to publish their working judges' lists on the Internet and send them to the FCI General Secretariat or not.

Article 12 – Code of Breeding Ethics

Breeding and the development of dog breeds must be based on long-term objectives and sound principles so that the breeding does not result in diseases, bad temperament or lack of working skills.

Breeding must serve the objective of preserving and preferably extending the genetic diversity (polygenicity) of the breed.

Only functionally healthy dogs are to be used for breeding. It is incumbent on all breeders selecting dogs for breeding to determine whether such breeding animals are mentally and physically suitable for reproduction.

The breeder must ensure that the animals he intends to use for breeding have a stable temperament and are in good physical condition.

As long as a puppy is in the breeder's custody, he must ensure a physically and mentally beneficial environment for the puppy to guarantee proper socialisation.

Article 13 - Penalties and sanctions

The FCI recognizes all legally valid final sanctions (against any person, such as judges, breeders, exhibitors, handlers, etc.) notified to it by its members and contract partners and informs the other members and contract partners so that the sanctions can be applied in all the countries under FCI jurisdiction.

Article 14 - Legal residence

In case the country of the legal residence cannot be defined according to the FCI Statutes, the following is taken into consideration:

the country of the legal residence is the country where a person spends most of his/her time and has his/her centre of relationships.

If the country of the legal residence cannot be determined on basis of the above statement, the following is taken into consideration:

the country of the legal residence is the country for which a person pays his/her taxes.

If it still appears impossible to determine the country of the legal residence, it is up to the FCI General Committee to decide.

These Standing Orders were adopted by the FCI General Assembly held in Acapulco on May 23rd, 2007.

The amendments in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Assembly in Milan on June 9th, 2015 and are valid from October 19th, 2015.



**President
Rafael de Santiago**



**Executive director
Yves De Clercq**