

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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SPECIFICATIONS

FOR THE

AGILITY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

OF THE

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE



February 2024

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The FCI Agility Commission, in order to assist with the organisation of the Agility World Championships (AWC), has compiled the following specifications.

1. VENUE

The criteria to be taken into consideration in selecting an indoor venue for the Agility World Championships are as follows:

- a) It should be able to hold one ring of 24 x 40 m. and one area where the competitors can be seated. The floor surface must not present any danger to the dogs or the handlers. There must be a separate area for the show secretariat.
- b) *It should provide at least one warm-up area in another area than the competition ring covering at least 120m² with one side at least 8m wide. The warm-up area should have the same surface as in the competition ring. There should be a maximum of two hurdles and one set of weaves in the warm-up area. More than one warm up area is allowed if there is room. However, any additional warm up area(s) must be separated from each other to avoid clashes between dogs and handlers warming up.*
- c) It should be able to hold a large public in comfortable and safe conditions. A **covered arena**, for instance, is advisable.
- d) It should be easily accessible and well signposted.
- e) It should have sufficient parking space for the officials, competitors and visitors.
- f) It should include sufficient toilet facilities.
- g) Refreshments (food and drinks) should be on offer for the competitors and the visitors.
- h) It should have a separate area for VIP's and members of the press.
- i) It should have a separate area to keep the dogs.
- j) There should be enough facilities for dog walking near the hall.
- k) Camping facilities are an essential part of the whole event; a decent camping area should be offered.
- l) A list of hotels should be made available – website or brochure
- m) Sufficient security in and around the venue should be provided.
- n) One year before the Championships take place, the organising national canine organisation (NCO) is to present a copy of the renting contract of the hall where the contest is to be held, to the President of the FCI Agility Commission.

2. TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

- a) A website should be set up. This will provide all the necessary information and should be updated regularly in order to provide everyone with the latest information.
- b) A PA-system (Public Address System) with at least one microphone for the show secretary and one for the commentator. The PA-system should ensure that all announcements are clear and understandable for everyone. Announcements should be made **at least** in English. Ensure that the national anthems of all the participating countries are available as well as music for the opening and closing ceremonies.

- c) An IT system to run the competition efficiently and relay the necessary information to competitors and spectators must be in place. For safety reasons backup procedures should be installed. Two or more photocopiers should also be available - to ensure enough printing capacity to produce all necessary lists without delay.

3. RING & OTHER EQUIPMENT

- a) Two complete **identical** agility sets must be available. These have to comply with the rules.
- b) **Obstacles used for the competition should be on the market for at least one year.**
- c) Electronic timing **system including a back-up system** and 2 measuring wheels.
- d) **Bibs with numbers** for the competitors to wear. They should include the following text: AGILITY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 20XX (possibly the name of the country or town where the event is organized).

Competitors **must always wear this bib** during course walking and all their runs.

- e) The secretariat should:
- display all results, running orders, time schedules in several areas around the hall
 - have sufficient judging slips for the scribe
 - have all the necessary information - such as running orders, course plans, results etc. for the teams - available for the team captains at the appropriate times
 - make sure that the necessary information, mentioned above, is delivered to the VIP area as well as the Press room
- f) Scanners to check the chip numbers after each run, at least 1 table (non slippery surface).
- g) Ensure that the flag of each country is available plus the flag of the FCI (to be applied for at the FCI).

For the opening ceremonies – flags to be carried by the team leaders – there must also be name boards for each nation.

- h) A podium must be provided for the prize giving (1st, 2nd, 3rd). **It must be large enough to hold at least a team of 4 handlers and dogs.**
- i) **The additional carpet used for bitches in heat has to be non-slip.**

4. RING OFFICIALS & STAFF

- a) A show organiser, responsible for the whole organisation.
- b) Secretariat: 2 IT teams to take care of all the results and administration
- c) In the ring:
- 1 chief ring steward
 - 2 scribes
 - 2 timekeepers
 - 3 to 4 equipment stewards (rebuild obstacles and straighten the tunnel)
 - 1 steward to show competitors in and out of the ring
 - 1 steward for the leads
 - 1 or 2 stewards responsible for the collecting ring

- Enough stewards to build the courses
 - At least 2 people to check the dog's microchip number after the run
- d) Commentators (several languages).
- e) Interpreters.
- f) Parking and gate stewards (entrance to the show).

5. REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FCI AGILITY COMMISSION

The FCI Agility Commission appoints a member of the Commission to assist the organiser in conducting the World Championships and to ensure that the event is executed correctly in accordance with the FCI Regulations.

The representative plays a crucial role in ensuring that competitions and meetings follows the Regulations and Guidelines, adhering to the principles of the FCI.

6. ENTRY FORMS

A country that has been appointed to organise the Agility World Championships, is obliged to send, at least 6 months in advance, entry forms to the various National Canine Organisations (NCO) as well as to ***the FCI-cooperation partners such as AKC, CKC and The Kennel Club UK and the FCI Agility Commission.***

The entry forms should be in English, French, German and Spanish.

Entry forms can also be made available online. ***In order to fill out the registration form correctly (especially important for multi-page online forms), the organiser must specify which data is required and in what form it is to be submitted.***

In the entry form Pedigree Name (registered name of the dog) may not be split. It is one single item.

Text for input fields has to be entered in lowercase letters. Capital/uppercase letters are for beginning of sentence or for the first letter in proper nouns.

The entry form must capture at least the following information:

- ***Country***
- ***Category (L,I,M or S)***
- ***Reserve dog (yes or no)***
- ***Dog's nick name***
- ***Dog's pedigree name***
- ***BreAgilit, number and date of registration***
- ***Microchip***
- ***Owner's name, address, phone and email address***
- ***Handler's name***

The following information must also be provided:

- A reminder of the FCI regulations regarding a compulsory record book or licence, prescribed vaccinations, compulsory Civil Liability insurance and entry requirements.
- Any restrictions – health or otherwise – that would prevent a dog from competing.
- Closing date.
- Entry fee.

A map with directions to the venue must be enclosed.

7. ENTRY FEES

Amount to be determined by the organising NCO that will submit it to the FCI Agility Commission for approval. **No entry fee should be charged for reserve dogs.**

Entry fees should be payable online.

8. REGISTRATION

- a) *The team leader has to send a copy of every participants dog's pedigree together with the completed entry form to the organiser before the inscription deadline in order to be registered as a participant. This pedigree, the age of the dog and the date of registration in the studbook/appendix of the country the dog belongs to will then be verified by the organization and the responsible FCI representative.*
- b) *When the NCO, or an official delegated by the NCO, completes the entry form(s) for their participants they implicitly confirm that the handlers and dogs entered are eligible for, and have the authority to compete at the world championships.*
- c) The identity of all dogs that have entered the competition has to be checked. If there is any doubt as to the identity of a dog then the dog in question will be removed from the competition.
- d) In the case of injury to a dog a reserve may be substituted. The team leader must notify the organisers immediately of an injury - the official vet will be asked to confirm that the dog should be withdrawn.

Once withdrawal is confirmed, the team leader must provide the name of the reserve dog and handler. This must be done before course walking for the first round in that category starts.

Dogs that get hurt or injured during competition need to have a vet check and written confirmation that they can continue to compete.

- e) *All teams entered the competition including reserve teams can be used to substitute an injured team within the same height category before the first course walk of the competition (team or individual).*
- f) *Each country is allowed to enter two reserve dogs per category.*

A complete entry list (including all the details of the dog) should be sent to the **responsible FCI representative minimum four weeks** before the championships. An Excel file would be ideal. This would enable the representative to prepare the list of the dogs that need to be measured.

9. CATALOGUES

The organising NCO will provide **a downloadable digital** catalogue containing all relevant information about the dogs and their handlers - listed per country. Also provide a schedule of the Championships and a list of the prizes and who donated them.

Each participating country will receive a copy that they are requested to check. Should this copy not be returned within ten days, the information appearing on it will be considered correct and the catalogue will be **published**.

10. ACCOMODATION

A list of hotels and camping areas must be made available to the competitors. The list is to be sent with the entry forms and/or posted on the website of the world championships.

11. EXPENSES

The organising NCO will have to cover the expenses of the judges **and measuring judges**, i.e.,

- a) A daily allowance
- b) Travelling expenses
- c) Accommodation and meals during the stay.
- d) A gift or memento of the championships should be presented to the judges.

12. INVITATIONS

The organising NCO will invite the President of the FCI Agility Commission as well as its representative. Their expenses will be covered on the same basis as those of the judges.

All delegates of the FCI Agility Commission will get free entry to the arena including access to the VIP area.

13. JUDGES RESPONSIBILITIES

Judges have to provide their course drawings to the representative of the FCI Commission at least 6 weeks prior to the AWC. The drawings must include:

- ***at least a 5m grid***
- ***dog's path incl. distance***
- ***direct line distance between the obstacles***
- ***judge's path***

Course drawings must fully comply with the FCI Agility Regulations and Guidelines.

Corrections to course drawings required by the FCI Representative must be completed within 1 week.

Once the course has been set and approved by the judge and the FCI Representative, it may be open for walking.

If, during the event, the FCI representative identifies any issues relating to FCI Rules, Guidelines, sportsmanship or the spirit of FCI competitions, he will take the appropriate action and then include this in his report to the Agility Commission

In the event that the judge is unable or unwilling to meet these obligations the following actions may be applied:

- ***The judge will be asked to comply with the rules and guidelines within a certain time period.***
- ***The judge will be asked to change course plans that comply with the suggested alterations.***
- ***As a last resort the FCI representative (in conjunction with the President of the FCI Commission as necessary) may substitute the judge with another approved judge.***

The President of the FCI Agility Commission will then decide the procedure for replacing the judge and which course plans will be used.

Once the judge submit their course plans and they have been approved, the FCI Commission reserves the right to use these course plans for the event, even in the case where the judge has been replaced or is unable to judge on the day.

Judges may not publish their course drawings before course walk of the particular course.

Judges are required to cooperate with the responsible FCI representative and the organiser to ensure a fluent competition.

A judge has to inform the FCI representative if at any time they are unable to meet their obligations, for example due to ill health, an unexpected personal event or force majeure. (Depending on the timing and circumstances a decision may be taken to replace the judge.)

14. MEDICAL AND VETERINARY SERVICES

Each dog will undergo a veterinary check before the start of the competition. The certificate of rabies vaccination will be checked. Dogs coming from or going to a rabies-infected region must also have a valid health certificate from their veterinarian.

Pregnant bitches or sick or injured dogs are not allowed to compete. Bitches in heat may compete; they shall start in the order specified.

Medical and veterinary first aid shall be available throughout the event.

15. MEASURING DOGS

A list will be kept of all the dogs in ***all*** categories that have been measured. Dogs entered for the World Championships that are not on this list will be measured to check if the dogs are entered in the correct category (***L, I, M and S***). Measuring will be carried out by ***the measuring group***. The Commission will appoint these members (***their expenses will be covered on the same basis as those of the judges***). Everything necessary to carry out their duties should be provided for such ***as***:

- Professional measuring equipment.
- Tables to measure dogs (with a non slippery surface and big enough for all sizes of dogs).
- Scanners to check the chip numbers.
- ***Power for a laptop.***

A separate room or at least a quiet area should be available to measure the dogs.

If a dog is found to be entered in the wrong category, then the dog will be removed from the competition. Once a dog has been measured and accepted in a category it must always compete in that category.

16. JUDGES MEETING

A meeting will be held ***before the team leader meeting*** the day before the event, attended by the judges, the President of the FCI Agility Commission, the representative of the Commission and the organiser of the event.

17. TEAM LEADER MEETING

A meeting will be held before the competition starts, attended by the team leaders, the judges, the President of the FCI Agility Commission, the representative of the Commission and the organiser of the event.

18. THE COMPETITION

- a) A warm-up area **as specified in 1.b** should be available. **Two jumps and a set of weaves will be used. They are not allowed to be moved** (supervision is needed).
- b) The schedule should be the same each year - that is to say that part one of the team and individual event should be the jumping round. Part two in both competitions should be the agility round.
- c) At least one white dog should be available for each class. **White dogs have to be at least 24-month-old and should be experienced competition dogs. The white dog should be of real help for the judge.**
- d) The running order for **first run (jumping)** of the **team and individual** competitions is decided by random draw: no exceptions are allowed. **The world champion of the previous year is handled like any other competitor.** If, however, a handler has a draw with less than twenty dogs in between each dog **for individual competition**, one of the dogs **must** be moved up or down the running order. **If a handler runs with more than one dog in second run (agility individual), the dog best positioned in the previous round stays where it is. The other dog(s) advances to have 20 dogs in between or to the beginning of the running order, in case the best dog is less than the 20th dog in the running order.**
- e) **All categories should have their team competition before their individual competition. i.e. all team jumping, all individual jumping, all team agility, all individual agility.**
- f) In the team event, the running order within the team is up to the competitors. It can be different for the second run.
- g) **Only one person per nation can wear the team leader shirt to accompany the participants on the course walk.**
- h) During course walking, each category is divided into groups; a group should not have more than 45 competitors.
- i) At the start of each competition, the judges for that class are introduced.
- j) **In the pre-ring no food is allowed. Toys and training aids may only be used in the hand, no throwing.**
- k) **The area to reward the dog with food in the finish area must be clearly marked.**
- l) **If team leaders are in the finish area of the course, they may not lure the dog towards the finish.**
- m) A short prize giving for the single runs (team and individual) should take place immediately after each class.
- n) **During main prize giving ceremony the order for calling the teams to the podium should start with the 3rd place, then 2nd place and finally the winner.**
- o) **Published timetables for the competition have to indicate start time of the "white dogs" and course walking.**
- p) **The video screen content during the competition has to at least indicate the leader of the combined ranking.**

19. RESULTS

The organisers will supply a sufficient number of lists containing the results and classifications for distribution among the delegates of the FCI Commission.

Two similar lists must be sent to the FCI General Secretary. The lists contain the complete results. During the Championships, as the test proceeds the results will be posted on a scoreboard clearly visible to the competitors and spectators.

20. DISPUTE

The President and the representative of the FCI Agility Commission will settle any dispute.

21. INSURANCE

In addition to their 'Civil Liability', the show organisers are responsible for ensuring that the judges and everybody involved in running the show are well covered by insurance.

22. LICENCE – ADMINISTRATION

The organising NCO will apply for a licence in the proper way and will make sure that administration proceedings are carried out correctly.

23. PROTOCOL

The organising country will try its utmost to give the opening and closing ceremonies the splendour that the Agility World Championships deserve.

Organisers who want to change any of the provisions in these specifications can only do so after permission of the FCI Agility Commission.

These specifications were approved by the FCI General Committee in Bucharest, October 2012.

The English version is the authentic one.

The changes in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Committee on March 6, 2024.