FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

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REGULATIONS FOR FCI DOG SHOWS

NB: Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders and numbers

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These regulations supplement the Standing Orders of the FCI only in respect of those dog shows in which a "Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté de la FCI" (FCI-CACIB), award for the title "International Beauty Champion", can be awarded.

For these events a fee is charged by the FCI for every dog appearing in the catalogue, the amount of which is to be determined by the General Assembly of the FCI. This fee is due, on receipt of the catalogues and the **FCI-**CACIB/**FCI-**Res-CACIB lists of the show in question. This fee must be paid even if no **FCI**-CACIB awards are granted**.**

1 BASICS

The FCI members, full and associated, must organise a minimum of 2 (two) FCI-CACIB show a year as per Art. 8.3 k) and 9.3.l) of the FCI Statutes.

The members are solely responsible for determining in which dog shows the competitions for the **FCI-**CACIB can be held.

It is the task of the FCI Head Office to draw up and publish **FCI-**CACIB show schedules.

The shows, which have been sanctioned by the FCI, must be indicated and designated as follows: "International Dog Show with attribution of the **FCI-**CACIB".

An online catalogue with information about the judging schedule, the breeds, names and owners of the dogs entered can only be published on the day of the show, and never earlier than two hours before the official opening of the first day of the show. In case a program of the show is published on the web before the event, it cannot include neither the names of the dogs entered nor personal information about their owners.

The catalogue of these shows must be clearly marked with the FCI-logo and the following expression: "Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI)".

2 APPLICATIONS

Applications to get an **FCI-**CACIB International Dog Show sanctioned by the FCI must be sent to the FCI Head Office latest 6 (six) months before the show or earliest four calendar years before the show. This timeframe can be altered in justified cases accepted by the FCI Head Office.

3 RESTRICTIONS

Only one **FCI-**CACIB, **FCI-**CACIB-J and **FCI-**CACIB-V can be awarded in each sex, in every breed and breed variety - in accordance with the FCI Breed Nomenclature- on the same day and at the same place with the exception of the following article:

No other **FCI**-CACIB show can be held the same days as an **FCI** World or Section show takes place on that particular continent except the FCI-CACIB shows organised by the same committee (as the FCI World or Section show) on the same days and place as the above FCI World or Section shows. Exceptional cases will be dealt with by the General Committee.

If a show has to be cancelled because of force majeure, the organiser is recommended to partly refund the entry fees that have been paid, based on its own existing rules.

The FCI will only authorize **FCI**-CACIB shows to be held on the same day provided that these events are held at a distance of at least 300 km. In case this distance is less than 300 km, the approval can be given provided that the organiser who first submitted an application gives his consent to the second applicant. In this case, appropriate dividing up of the FCI groups according to the FCI Breed Nomenclature, taking the show venues and days into consideration, is recommended.

At **FCI**-CACIB shows a breed must be judged, if possible, in one single day and the breeds of the same FCI group should also be judged in one day. However, it is possible to divide the groups over two days if needed for organisational reasons.

The decision regarding sanctioning **FCI**-CACIB shows is the responsibility of the Executive Director of the FCI.

4 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS / ADMISSION OF DOGS

The dogs' welfare and health must be of UTMOST PRIORITY at all dog shows.

The organisers are requested to add the following message in the show catalogue, giving it sufficient visibility: The exhibitors are responsible for the welfare of the dogs at a FCI international dog show. It is forbidden to expose a dog to a situation that can be dangerous for its health and welfare, such as for example leaving it in the car in excessively hot or cold weather and/or treating it in a cruel manner. Violation of this ruling will result in exclusion from the ongoing and future dog shows.

It is mandatory to indicate in all the announcements, whether the show is held indoor or outdoor.

It is the responsibility of the owners/handlers, show organisers and judges judging the dogs concerned to provide a professional environment to the minor puppies/puppies taking part in the event, paying special attention to their health and wellbeing-related needs.

The organisers must ensure that the only breeds that will be shown are those for which breed standards have been definitively or provisionally accepted by the FCI and which are registered with the studbook or with the appendix to the studbook (waiting list) of an FCI member country. The same will apply to a non-FCI member country whose studbook is, however, recognized by the FCI. Breeds that are not yet recognized (neither definitively nor provisionally) by the FCI, must be recognized at a national level and have pedigrees issued by a national kennel club that is a member or a contract partner of the FCI.

These breeds cannot be incorporated in any group (they have to appear in a special section of the catalogue called "breeds not recognized by the FCI") and they are not eligible for the **FCI**-CACIB and for the various FCI titles. In addition, they cannot compete in the Best in Group finals, ***Best in Show final and in any competition held in the main ring (such as Breeders Group, Couple, Progeny, Minor Puppy, Puppy, Veteran, Junior, etc.)***. The normal FCI fee has to be paid also for each dog of these breeds.

At all shows in which the **FCI**-CACIB is awarded, the division into groups must be in accordance with the current FCI Breed Nomenclature. In case this ruling would not be observed, the FCI reserves the right to refuse future authorizations to award the **FCI**-CACIB at international shows.

These groups are as follows:

Group 1	Sheepdogs and Cattle- Dogs (except Swiss Cattle Dogs)
Group 2	Pinschers and Schnauzers – Molossoid Breeds - Swiss Mountain and Cattle Dogs
Group 3	Terriers
Group 4	Dachshunds
Group 5	Spitz and Primitive Types
Group 6	Scenthounds and related breeds
Group 7	Pointing dogs
Group 8	Retrievers – flushing dogs – water dogs
Group 9	Companion and toy dogs
Group 10	Sighthounds

At "Best in Group" final competitions held at all FCI-CACIB shows, the 10 FCI groups must be judged separately in the main ring.

At all shows, in addition to the designation of the breed in the relevant language of the organizing country, the schedule and the catalogue should also include the country of origin of the breed and should be in one of the four FCI working languages.

Dogs and bitches must be entered separately. Numbering must start at no.1 and shall not be interrupted through the catalogue. Within the same breed, the numbering cannot be interrupted.

The confirmed titles of International and National Champion and the official titles obtained at FCI World and Section Shows (**FCI** World Winner, **FCI** World Junior Winner, **FCI** World Veteran Winner, **FCI** Section Winner, **FCI** Section Junior Winner, **FCI** Section Veteran Winner) can be published in the catalogue. The publication of other titles in the catalogue is left to the discretion of the country organizing the show.

Sick (temporarily ill or suffering from a contagious illness) dogs and bitches which are lactating or which are accompanied by their puppies must be excluded from any dog show. Bitches on heat are allowed to participate subject to the show regulations of the organisers. Blind or deaf dogs are not allowed to take part in **FCI**-CACIB shows. However, should this ruling not be observed and a judge discovers that a dog is deaf or blind, he has to send the dog out of the ring.

A minor handling dogs in the show ring must be able to control them. If the judge or the ring staff see that it is not the case, they can stop the presentation for safety reasons.

Dogs which are not in the catalogue cannot be judged unless mistakes occur for which the organizing committee is responsible (problem in the printing process of the catalogue, etc.). The entry forms must have been completely filled in and returned to the organisers before the entry deadline and the entry fees must be duly recorded and paid.

Dogs with docked tails or cropped ears are to be admitted in accordance with the legal regulations of their home countries and those of the country where the show takes place. The judging of docked and undocked or cropped and uncropped dogs must be done without any discrimination and solely in accordance with the valid breed standard. The organizing country's regulations concerning showing docked or cropped dogs should be stated in the show schedule or on the entry forms as well as in the show regulations.

It is forbidden to prepare a dog with any substance that will alter the structure, colour or form of the coat, skin or nose. Only trimming, clipping, combing and brushing are allowed. It is also forbidden to leave the dog tied up on the trimming table, longer than necessary for the preparation.

Micro-chips (ISO-standard) and tattoos are accepted equally as identification.

The organizing committee reserves the right not to accept the participation of an exhibitor at the show.

5 CLASSES

Double entries as well as late entries (after the closing date) are not permitted.

Additional international or national shows or competitions organised by clubs from the same FCI-NCO as the club organizing the **FCI**-CACIB show, are permitted within the same showground, when accepted by the **FCI**-CACIB show organiser.

The decisive date for age is the day the dog is shown**.**

Only the following classes are recognized at **FCI**-CACIB shows sanctioned by the FCI:

a. Classes in which the **FCI**-CACIB can be awarded:

Intermediate class	From 15 and less than 24 months	compulsory
Open class	From 15 months	compulsory
Bred by Exhibitor class	***From 15 months***	***compulsory***
Working class	From 15 months	compulsory
Champion class	From 15 months	compulsory

Bred by Exhibitor

A dog qualifying for the Bred by Exhibitor class is not required to enter that class. It can enter any other class for which it qualifies.

A dog entered in the Bred by Exhibitor class must be handled by its breeder throughout the whole show.

A dog entered in the Bred by Exhibitor class can be handled by its co-breeder.

Working Class

To enter a dog in working class, the entry form must be accompanied by a copy of the FCI compulsory certificate, WCC (Working Class Certificate) **(annexes 1a) and 1b))**, containing the confirmation by the member country in which the holder and/or owner has his legal residence, that the dog has passed an appropriate test as well as details about this test.

The only breeds eligible for the working class are those appearing as working breeds in the FCI Breed Nomenclature, taking into account the exceptions granted to some countries for some breeds.

Champion Class

To enter a dog in Champion Class, one of the following titles must have been confirmed by the day of the official closing date of entries; proof of this, by copy, must be enclosed with the entry form.

- International Beauty Champion of the FCI (CIB)
- International Show Champion of the FCI (CIE)
- National Beauty Champion of an FCI member or contract partner (with at least 2 CAC – as per Art. 20.2 of the FCI Internal Rules - awarded by FCI recognised judges qualified for the breed(s) concerned)
- National Show Champion of an FCI country
- National Beauty Champion of a non-FCI country which has signed a letter of understanding with FCI
- National Show Champion of a non-FCI country which has signed a letter of understanding with FCI

Once the entries for a show have closed it is not allowed to transfer a dog from one class to another except if an administrative mistake was made by the Show Committee.

b. Classes in which the **FCI**-CACIB cannot be awarded:

Minor Puppy Class	correctly inoculated puppies, and less than 6 months	compulsory
Puppy Class	from 6 months and less than 9 months	compulsory
Junior Class	from 9 months and less than 18 months	compulsory
Veteran Class	from 8 years	compulsory

c. Class in which the **FCI**-CACIB-J can be awarded:

Junior Class	from 9 months and less than 18 months	compulsory

d. Class in which the **FCI**-CACIB-V can be awarded:

Veteran Class	from 8 years	compulsory

e. Sequence of judging

The recommended sequence of judging the classes is: Minor Puppy, Puppy, Junior, intermediate, Open, ***Bred by Exhibitor***, Working, Champion and Veteran.

f. Optional Best of Sex competition

Must include at least the ***FCI***-CACIB-J winner, the **FCI**-CACIB winner and the ***FCI***-CACIB-V winner. The judge places the exhibits in order of quality without taking into consideration which classes they come from.

g. Optional Collective Groups/Competitions

To compete in these groups/competitions, the dogs must be entered individually in one of the compulsory classes.

- Brace/Couple Group/Competition: a dog and a bitch of the same breed and variety and belonging to the same owner.

- Breeders Group/Competition: consisting of minimum three and maximum five exhibits of the same breed and variety, no matter what gender, bred by the same person (same kennel name), even if they are not his property.

- Progeny Group/Competition: a sire or dam with minimum three and maximum five of his/her progeny (first generation, sons/daughters).

These optional groups/competitions should preferably be judged in the breed-judging rings. The breed judge picks up the best group and only that group is allowed to compete in the ring of honour.

6 QUALIFICATIONS AND PLACINGS

The qualifications given by the judges must correspond to the following definitions:

EXCELLENT may only be awarded to a dog which comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed, which is presented in excellent condition, displays a harmonious, well-balanced temperament, is of high class and has excellent posture. Its superior characteristics in respect of its breed permit that minor imperfections can be ignored; it must however have the typical features of its sex.

VERY GOOD may only be awarded to a dog that possesses the typical features of its breed, which has well-balanced proportions and is in correct condition. A few minor faults may be tolerated. This award can only be granted to a dog that shows class.

GOOD is to be awarded to a dog that possesses the main features of its breed. The good points should outweigh the faults so that the dog can be considered a good representative of its breed.

SUFFICIENT should be awarded to a dog which corresponds adequately to its breed, without possessing the generally accepted characteristics or whose physical condition leaves a lot to be desired.

DISQUALIFIED must be awarded to a dog which does not correspond to the type required by the breed standard; which shows a behaviour clearly not in line with its standard or which behaves aggressively; which has testicular abnormalities; which has a jaw anomaly; which shows a colour or coat structure that is not according to the breed standard or clearly shows signs of albinism. This qualification shall also be awarded to dogs that correspond so little to a single feature of the breed that their health is threatened. It should furthermore be awarded to dogs that show disqualifying faults in regard to the breed standard. The reason why the dog was rated DISQUALIFIED has to be stated in the judge's report.

Dogs that cannot be awarded one of the above qualifications shall be released from the ring with the rating:

CANNOT BE JUDGED. This rating is to be given to any dog which does not move, which is lame, which constantly jumps up and down on its handler or tries to get out of the ring, which makes it impossible to assess the gait and the movement or avoids constantly to be examined by the judge and makes it impossible to inspect teeth, anatomy and structure, tail or testicles. This rating is also to be given if traces of operations or treatment can be observed which seem to indicate that the exhibitor wanted to deceive the judge. The same applies if the judge has ample reason to suspect operations that were intended to correct the original condition or feature (e.g.: eyelid, ear or tail). This rating is also to be given in case of "double handling" (i.e. attracting the dog's attention from outside the ring) - which is strictly prohibited**.** The reason why the dog was rated CANNOT BE JUDGED has to be stated in the judge's report.

The four best dogs in each class are placed provided that they have been awarded at least the qualification "VERY GOOD"**.**

In the Puppy and Minor Puppy classes, the qualifications given by the judges must correspond to the following definitions:

VERY PROMISING: may only be awarded to a dog which comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed, which is presented in excellent condition, displays a harmonious, well-balanced temperament, is of high class and has excellent posture. Its superior characteristics in respect of its breed permit that minor imperfections can be ignored; it must however have the typical features of its sex. The dog has to be considered an excellent representative of its breed, taking its age into account.

PROMISING: may only be awarded to a dog that possesses the typical features of its breed, which has well-balanced proportions and is in correct condition. A few minor faults may be tolerated. The dog has to be considered a very good representative of its breed, taking its age into account.

LESS PROMISING: must be awarded to a dog which does not correspond to the type required by the breed standard; which shows a behaviour clearly not in line with its standard or which behaves aggressively; which has testicular abnormalities; which has a jaw anomaly; which shows a colour or coat structure that is not according to the breed standard or clearly shows signs of albinism. This qualification shall also be awarded to dogs that correspond so little to a single feature of the breed that their health is threatened. It should furthermore be awarded to dogs that show disqualifying faults in regard to the breed standard.

7 TITLES, AWARDS AND MAIN RING COMPETITIONS

FCI-CACIB – Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté de la FCI

The only dogs which can be taken into consideration for the **FCI-**CACIB are those which have been awarded "EXCELLENT 1st" in intermediate, open, ***bred by exhibitor***, working and champion class. An **FCI-**CACIB can only be awarded if the dog in question has been assessed as being of superior quality. The **FCI-**CACIB is not automatically and compulsorily linked to the "EXCELLENT 1st"

The Reserve **FCI-**CACIB is awarded to the second best dog which was given the qualification "EXCELLENT" from the above mentioned classes. The dog placed second in the class where the **FCI-**CACIB winner comes from can compete for the Reserve **FCI-**CACIB, if awarded excellent. It is not compulsory to award the **FCI-**Reserve-CACIB.

The judge awards **FCI-**CACIB and **FCI-**Reserve-CACIB according to the quality of the dogs without checking whether they meet the conditions regarding age and/or registration with a studbook recognized by the FCI.

The CAC (Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat) is a national grading. It is up to the national canine organisations to decide in which classes and to which dogs this certificate can be awarded.

The CAC counts towards a national champion title as per Art. 20.2 of the FCI Internal Rules and provided it is awarded by an FCI recognised judge, qualified for the breed(s) concerned.

The first title of national champion earned in an FCI member or contract partner country must be with at least 2 CACs as per Art. 20.2 of the FCI Internal Rules and awarded by FCI recognised judges, qualified for the breed(s) concerned, on two different days.

Only one judge for each sex and breed carries out the granting of all awards, including **FCI**-CACIB, and this judge shall be appointed in advance.

FCI-CACIB-Junior (FCI-CACIB-J) – Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté Jeune de la FCI
FCI-CACIB-Vétéran (FCI-CACIB-V) – Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté Vétéran de la FCI

The only dogs which can be taken into consideration for the **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V are those which have been awarded "EXCELLENT 1st" in Junior and Veteran class. Each NCO can have additional requirements on top of the qualification "EXCELLENT 1st".

An **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V can only be awarded if the dog in question has been assessed as being of superior quality. The **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V are not automatically and compulsorily linked to the "EXCELLENT 1st".

No Reserve **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V can be awarded.

The judge awards **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V according to the quality of the dogs without checking whether they meet the conditions regarding age and/or registration with a studbook recognized by the FCI.

Best of Breed (BOB) and Best of Opposite Sex (BOS)

The ***FCI***-CACIB-J winner, the **FCI**-CACIB winner and the **FCI**-CACIB-V winner from both sexes, if awarded at least EXCELLENT**,** will compete for Best of Breed (BOB). The judge must also choose the best exhibit from the opposite sex (BOS) next to the BOB winner.

Optional (in case an optional Best of Sex competition is held): the best male and the best bitch from Best of Sex competition compete for Best of Breed (BOB) and Best of Opposite Sex (BOS).

Dogs of FCI breeds which are not yet definitively recognized (have a provisional status), although not eligible for the **FCI**-CACIB, **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V, are allowed to compete for the Best of Breed, Best in Group and Best in Show competitions. These breeds can also compete for the various FCI titles.

Main ring competitions

Best in Show, Best in Group, Breeders' Group, Progeny Group, Couple Class (Brace), Best Veteran, Best Junior, Best Puppy, Best Minor Puppy and Junior Handling must be judged by one judge appointed in advance.

Each NCO is entitled to hold separate competitions in the main ring for their native or nationally recognised breeds, no matter if they are recognised by the FCI or not.

To make the competitions in the ring of honour more efficient the judge should prejudge the exhibits or groups in a separate ring in due time before they are expected in the ring of honour so that the judge after watching the dogs enter the main ring can quickly choose the semi-finalists or finalists that will need a closer look.

The only judges who may judge these competitions are those who are allowed to do so by their respective national canine organization.

If a dog behaves aggressively in the ring (breed-group-finals) and its behaviour is eye-witnessed by the judge in duty, the latter has to write a report for the attention of the organizing committee and has to disqualify the dog for the rest of the competition. All the awards and titles of the day are cancelled.

8 CONFIRMATION OF THE FCI-CACIB

The **FCI-**CACIB proposals will be issued by the appropriate judges. The final confirmation will be done by the FCI.

It is up to the FCI Head Office to check whether the dogs proposed comply with the conditions accepted for confirmation of the **FCI-**CACIB.

The cards handed to the exhibitors at the shows duly indicate that the relevant dog has been proposed for an **FCI-**CACIB. They must read: “Subject to confirmation by the FCI”.

The FCI Head Office must make sure that the **FCI-**CACIB was correctly awarded. Latest three months after the show, one copy of the catalogue and the lists of the dogs proposed for the **FCI-**CACIB and the **FCI-**Reserve-CACIB must be forwarded to the FCI Head Office by the show organiser.

These lists must contain the following information:

Catalogue number, name of the dog, studbook and studbook number, sex, breed and variety, date of birth, name of the owner, name of the judge and class in which the **FCI-**CACIB was awarded.

The breeds will be listed according to their name in one of the four FCI working languages followed by the name normally used in the country in which the show takes place.

If a dog is not included in the **FCI-**CACIB list (if for example the organisers failed to mention it), the proposal card can be accepted as proof provided that no other dog of the same breed and sex already appears on the list.

9 FCI-CACIB-J AND FCI-CACIB-V PROPOSALS

The **FCI**-CACIB-J and the **FCI**-CACIB-V proposals, handed over at the show, are not checked by the FCI Head Office unless a title of International Junior/Veteran Beauty Champion is applied for.

10 JUDGES

Only the officiating judge is authorized to make decisions regarding the awarding of qualifications, placing and **FCI**-CACIB. In this respect, he is obliged to do so without outside help and/or interference by anybody else.

Only judges who are authorized by their national organization to judge said breeds may carry out judging and evaluation of dogs. While on assignment, they are obliged to judge strictly and exclusively in accordance with the FCI breed standard that is currently valid.

Judges from countries that are not members of the FCI can only officiate at FCI shows if the national organization to which they belong is related to the FCI by contractual arrangement or gentleman's agreement**.** These judges can officiate at FCI shows provided that their name is included in the official list of their national canine association.

The following also applies:

a. If invited to judge at an FCI show, all judges from countries that are not members of the FCI must fill in the standardized questionnaire issued by the FCI. It shall be sent to them in due time and must be returned signed for approval.

b. It is up to the national organization of the country where a judge from a non-member country of the FCI is scheduled to judge to check the validity of the information contained in the questionnaire.

c. All the judges, including those from countries that are not members of the FCI, must under all circumstances follow the FCI breed standards when they are officiating at shows which have been sanctioned by the FCI. The FCI standards for the breeds which will be judged by judges who do not come from FCI members must be sent to them in due time before the event. by the organiser who has invited them. The rules regarding the general duties of a show judge, his travel and insurance arrangements and his behaviour mentioned in the FCI Show Judges Regulations (Art.9 to 11) also concern the judges from non FCI member countries. They have to follow them.

d. Judges from non-FCI member countries are only licensed to judge the breeds recognized by their national canine organizations when officiating at FCI shows even if they are listed as all-breed judges in their own NCO.

e. Judges from countries that are not members of the FCI must be fully informed in advance and in detail about the FCI show regulations, as well as other important procedural matters and regulations. It is the responsibility of the show organiser of the country where the show is held to provide these judges with the necessary information.

11 DUTIES OF THE SHOW ORGANISATION COMMITTEE

The show organization committees should have knowledge of the contents of the FCI Regulations for Show Judges and Regulations for FCI Dog Shows and should respect these regulations.
The FCI cannot be held responsible for any incident happening in the frame of an FCI international dog show.
Liability insurance must be provided by the show organization.

INVITING JUDGES

a. The organisers of shows must send a written invitation to the judge. The judge is obliged to advise the organisers, in writing, about his accepting or refusing the invitation. He should always carry out his obligations to act as a judge unless prevented for an important reason.

b. If the judge is unable to meet his obligations for any important reason, the organiser of the show must be informed immediately by telephone, fax or e-mail. The cancellation must be confirmed by letter.

c. Equally, the organiser of a show is also bound to keep to his invitation. Cancellation is only permitted for reasons of force majeure or by mutual agreement with the judge.

d. Should the organisers of a show be forced to cancel the event, or the judging appointment of a particular judge, they are obliged to refund to the judge the costs that have already been incurred. If a judge, for any reason other than “force majeure”, is not able to meet his obligations to officiate as a judge, he is obliged to pay for any extra costs that may have already been incurred.

e. The judges should sign up a travel insurance contract (flight cancellation, accidents etc.) whenever they are invited to judge abroad.

f. If judges are asked to judge breeds that are recognized at a national level only, they must be allowed to do so, following the NCO’s judge regulations and must be provided with the breed standard by the show organiser in due time before the show.

g. At all International FCI Shows at least 2/3 of the invited judges in the panel (breed judges – group judges – all breed judges) have to be judges approved by a FCI-NCO. If the organiser only needs two judges, both should be approved by their FCI-NCO.

h. FCI breed judges from full FCI members, will need confirmation - prior to the event - from their NCO to judge breed(s) and/or final competitions in the ring of honour abroad unless the NCO of the country where they have their legal residence have their judges listed in the FCI Judges Directory (without any restriction being published in the Directory about those judges). FCI group judges from full FCI-NO are allowed to judge, without any official authorization from their NCO (unless the NCO specifically asks for it), all the breeds of the groups for which they are qualified as well as Best in Group for the groups for which they are qualified.

They can judge the Best in Show competitions provided that the NCO and the inviting country approve it and they are approved as FCI Group Judges for at least two of the FCI groups.

i. FCI all breed international judges from full FCI members are allowed to judge without any authorization from their national canine organization NCO (unless the NCO specifically asks for it), any breed, any competition, including Best in Group and Best in Show.

j. FCI national all breed judges from full FCI members with less than 100 registered breeds are only allowed to judge the breeds recognized by their NCO. They must have the authorization from their NCO unless they are registered in the FCI Judges Directory.

k. The country that must appear on the show programme is the country where the judge's FCI license is registered.

BREED ASSIGNMENT

A judge must be informed not later than 3 days before the event about what breeds and numbers of dogs he is scheduled to judge, as well as his duties in the ring of honour. It is the responsibility of the show organiser to send this information in advance and in writing to the judge.

A judge should not be expected to judge more than approximately 20 dogs per hour and up to 80 dogs per day if the national organization requests an individual written report for each dog. He should not have to judge more than 150 dogs per day if such a written report is not required. In cases of force majeure, for instance last minutes cancellations of judges because of illness, weather conditions, etc., these figures can be extended to 100 and 200 with or without written report. In these situations, there must be a mutual agreement between the organiser and the judge who should be provided with very experienced ring stewards and assistants. If a judge is asked to judge more than 100 dogs the judging should be done without a written report.

The FCI-CACIB can be awarded by a judge only to the breeds for which he's listed in the FCI Judges Directory.
A judge registered by his NCO at national level only can also award the FCI-CACIB but only at FCI CACIB-shows held in his country of legal residence where his judging licence is registered.

RIGHTS OF THE JUDGES

Judges' rights when travelling to FCI International Shows outside the country of residence are as follows:

a. The show organization or the inviting club must look after the judge, according to previous agreement, from the time of his arrival in the country where he is judging until the time of his departure; this normally includes the day before and the day after the show where he is officiating as a judge.

b. A judge has to be provided with reasonable accommodation during his appointment, which may also include the night before and the night after the show, according to the judge's travel arrangements.

c. Judges are free to make private arrangements with show organisers, which may differ from those stated in the "Appendix to the Dog Shows and Show Judges Regulations of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale". However, when such personal arrangements have not been made, judges must be provided with the benefits mentioned in the appendix**.**
The reimbursement of the travel expenses and judging fees must be paid considering the net sum. Taxes must be paid by the show committees unless another agreement is made between the judge and the organisers when the invitation is launched.

d. It is advisable that financial arrangements be laid out in advance in the form of a written contract or agreement between the judge and the show organiser; it has to be honoured by both parties.

RING MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANTS

Toy breeds and some other small breeds have to be examined on a table provided by the organisers.

The judge is in charge of the ring. When organizational problems occur, the chief ring steward has to be consulted and decisions are made in agreement with the judge.

For organizational support, one ring steward and one writer should be made available to the judge. The above assistants and the chief ring steward have to speak one of the FCI working languages, as requested by the judge.

The stewards and writers must be provided by the organiser of the show.

The ring stewards must have a good knowledge of the Regulations for FCI Dog Shows as well as the national show regulations of the country where the show is held. The FCI NCO should organise special education and an authorization system for ring stewards and assistants.

The steward and the writer should provide the following service to the judge:

- collect the classes;
- check the absentees in each class;
- notify the judge of any change of handler or any irregular entry;
- in priority write the judge's critique, when required, in the language chosen by the latter (and communicated to the show organiser in advance) so that the judge will understand what is written. If necessary, translation of reports should be done outside the ring in a special translation area.
- organise all the necessary paperwork and distribution of awards;
- follow all the judge's instructions.

12 RESTRICTIONS FOR JUDGES AT SHOWS

- A judge should never be late for his judging appointments or leave the show ground before he has completely fulfilled the duties that were assigned to him.
- A judge should not criticise the work of another judge.
- Under no circumstances can a judge solicit appointments to judge.
- A judge is not permitted to consult the catalogue of the show before or during his judging.
- In the ring a judge must behave properly and examine all dogs indiscriminately. He should be soberly and properly dressed, in accordance with the duty to be fulfilled, and should always be correct and urbane.
- A judge cannot smoke in the ring.
- A judge cannot drink alcohol in the ring.
- A judge cannot use a mobile phone in the ring while judging.
- A judge can neither enter nor handle a dog at a show where he is officiating as a judge.
- A partner, any member of his immediate family or person living with the judge in his household can enter and handle any dog of any breed that this judge is not judging on that day of the show.
- The dogs that a judge handles at an **FCI-**CACIB show where he is not acting as a judge must be either bred, owned or co-owned by him, by a partner, by a member of his immediate family or any person living with him in his household.
- A judge cannot judge any dog that he, a partner, a member of his immediate family or any person living with him in his household has either owned, co-owned, conditioned, kept at home or sold in the six months preceding the show where he is officiating.
- A judge is not allowed to travel to shows where he is judging with exhibitors who are showing under him at those events.
- Under no circumstances should a judge socialise or stay with the exhibitors who will be showing under him. He can do so only AFTER his judging appointment is completed.

13 COMPLAINTS

Any decision made by a judge regarding the qualifications, awards and placing is final and indisputable.
However, complaints about the organization of the show and about the procedure followed to give the qualifications, awards and placements are admissible and have to be made immediately in writing to the organiser of the show, followed by the immediate deposit of twice the entry fee, as surety. They must be recorded by the show secretariat. If the complaint is found to be unjustified, the surety will be kept by the organiser. If the complaint is found to be justified, the money will be refunded to the complainant.

14 PENALTIES

Infringements against these regulations can be punished with disciplinary measures. The FCI can prevent the organiser concerned from awarding the **FCI-**CACIB at its international events for one or more years. Such a decision is taken by the FCI General Committee after an oral or written hearing of the organiser concerned has been conducted. Any appeal against the penalty imposed by the FCI General Committee shall be decided upon by the General Assembly of the FCI as a final instance.

15 ENFORCEMENT DISPOSITIONS

Each organiser of an **FCI-**CACIB show has to follow the regulations and laws of the relevant country. Under specific complaints, the FCI General Committee can interfere and take final decisions (including cancellation of an **FCI-**CACIB) in case these regulations are not observed by the exhibitors, by the FCI judges and/or the show organisers. These decisions should help maintain the credibility of the FCI international shows and make sure that these regulations are observed.

Complementary rules for World and Sections Shows of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI)

PREAMBLE

Once a year, at an international **FCI**-CACIB show determined by the FCI General Assembly, the title of "**FCI** World Winner" can be awarded. Once a year, at an international **FCI**-CACIB show determined by each section of the FCI, the title of "**FCI** Section Winner" can be awarded. The titles of **FCI** World and **FCI** Section Winner can be awarded to all breeds, recognized by the FCI on a provisional or definitive basis. Breeds that are not yet recognized, neither definitively nor provisionally by the FCI, cannot be entered at **FCI** World and Section shows.

There is no "Reserve" for **FCI** World Winner or **FCI** Section Winner. These shows must be organised strictly according to the FCI regulations.

The **FCI** World and Section Shows can only be organised by the FCI full members**.**

Any application for an **FCI** World (WDS) or Section Dog Show (SDS) must be done with one of the 2 forms attached **(annex 2 or 3).**

No other **FCI**-CACIB show can be organised on the same continent the same day as an **FCI** World or Section Show takes place except FCI-CACIB shows organised by the same organization committee (as the FCI World or Section show) on the same days and place as the above FCI World or Section shows. Irrespective of the section in which these shows take place, there must be a period of at least 6 weeks between the **FCI** World Show and the **FCI** Section Show. Between an **FCI** World and **FCI** Section Show (when being held in the same section), there must be an interval of at least three months. The date of the **FCI** World Show prevails.

Entry fees for the **FCI** World and Section Shows have to be the same for all the exhibitors. However, a possible discount is allowed for people who are members of the national organizing club.

1 RULES

The title "**FCI** World Winner" and "**FCI** Section Winner" shall be awarded to the dog and the bitch that are proposed for the **FCI**-CACIB (see section 7 "Titles, awards and main ring competitions" of the FCI Show Regulations). The awarding of this title is irrespective of the entry for this particular breed. In case of breeds provisionally recognized by the FCI, the **FCI** World and **FCI** Section Winner titles will be awarded to best male and best female from the intermediate, open, ***bred by exhibitor***, working and champion class. These breeds are not eligible for **FCI**-CACIB.

The title "**FCI** World Junior Winner" or "**FCI** Section Junior Winner" shall be awarded to the ***FCI***-CACIB-J (dog and bitch) provided they have received the qualification "EXCELLENT 1st"

The title "**FCI** World Veteran Winner" or "**FCI** Section Veteran Winner" shall be awarded to the ***FCI***-CACIB-V (dog and bitch) provided they have received the qualification "EXCELLENT 1st".

The Junior and the Veteran **FCI** winner titles are awarded according to the **FCI**-CACIB distribution list.

The titles “FCI World Hope » and “FCI Section Hope” shall be awarded to the winners of both Minor Puppy and Puppy classes (male and bitch) provided they have received the qualification “VERY PROMISING 1st”.
The titles “FCI World Hope“ and “FCI Section Hope“ are awarded according to the FCI-CACIB distribution list.

All the above FCI titles must include the year of the event in which they were awarded.

The dog and the bitch proposed for the **FCI**-CACIB, and the dog and the bitch proposed for the **FCI**-CACIB-J and **FCI**-CACIB-V which have received the qualification “EXCELLENT 1st” in the Junior and Veteran classes, compete for the titles Best of Breed (BOB) and Best of Opposite Sex (BOS).

One judge, who must be named in advance, awards the above titles as well as the Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex (BOS).

All dogs must be judged according to the Regulations for FCI Dog Shows. A judge’s report is optional. Reports should be written in the native language of the organising country or in one of the four FCI working languages chosen by the judge. The organiser decides on the type of report and is held responsible for its translation. The organiser must announce in the show schedule whether or not the exhibitors will receive a written report.

For **FCI** World and Section Shows, the division into groups according to the current FCI Breed Nomenclature is absolutely compulsory. The individual groups are to be judged completely on the same day.

A competition for a “Winner of the day” cannot be held. It is compulsory for all Group Winners to compete on the last day of the show for “Best in Show”.

During each **FCI** World and Section Show, the organiser should also hold **FCI** World and Section Obedience competitions and **FCI** World and Section Junior Handling competitions.

2 SHOWGROUNDS AND RINGS

The **FCI** World and Section Shows must be held on a show ground that is suitable for such a purpose.

Each individual ring must be large enough so that the dogs can be judged standing and have enough space to move around freely in the ring, according to the size and the number of dogs.

The organisers of the **FCI** World and Section Shows must provide a ring of honour which is large enough to give room for all the dogs to be judged in accordance with the FCI groups. The exhibits competing in all groups and other competitions in the ring of honour should be pre-judged in separate rings in due time before they are expected in the ring of honour according to the schedule. A further examination by the judge in the ring of honour should be limited to shortlisted semi-finalists or finalists.

The organisers must make sure that the BOB winners have easy access to the ring of honour from the pre-judging ring.

If other activities are taking place during the show, these may not interfere with the smooth running of the show.

The organising committee must ensure sufficient weather protection in case of outdoor showing.

3 JUDGES

Judges who officiate at **FCI** World or Section shows must be especially experienced with the breed(s) they are to judge and should have great experience in large and important FCI-shows. Proof of this experience should be provided.

Best in Group (BIG) and Best in Show (BIS) competitions must be judged by only one judge who is authorized to do so.

At **FCI** World and Section shows, only an FCI International All Breed Judge from a full member of the FCI may judge the BIS competition.

Only an FCI group judge from a full member of the FCI approved for this group, or an FCI International All Breed Judge from a full member of the FCI, may judge the BIG competitions.

A balanced international panel of judges must be nominated for **FCI** World and Section shows. The rules defined in Art. 10 INVITING JUDGES g) of the Regulations for FCI Dog Shows (at least 2/3 of the invited judges in the panel have to be judges approved by a FCI-NO) must be respected. In addition, qualified judges from countries that are not members of the FCI may be used especially for judging their native breeds.
For **FCI** World Dog shows, at least one judge from each section of the FCI should be invited.

Programmes for **FCI** World and Section shows must clearly identify the assigned breeds to the relevant judges.

For **FCI** World and Section shows, the national canine organization of the country where the show is held, must nominate and engage the judges.

Judges who are also the NCO's official representatives at an FCI General Assembly connected to the **FCI** World show must have a minimum of 50% of their travelling expenses reimbursed by the organiser of the event.

4 DELEGATE OF THE FCI

A The FCI General Committee will nominate an official FCI Delegate for each **FCI** World Show. The Executive Director of the FCI will assist the official FCI Delegate.
For **FCI** Section Shows the relevant section recommends the official FCI Delegate to the FCI General Committee for approval.

B The FCI Delegate has the following tasks, duties and rights:

a. to assist and advise the organizing club during the preparations of the show and to initiate any necessary actions through the Organising Committee in case of unforeseen circumstances before or during the event;

b. to ensure that the FCI rules and specific regulations are correctly applied by the organising NCO before and during the show;

c. to write down details of all complaints, which are made during the show and which relate to infringements against FCI rules and specific regulations;

d. to visit the premises on three (3) occasions: a year, three months and four weeks (preferably once the entries are closed) before the event. He will be provided with a checklist **(annex 5)** of all the points to control. After each of the 3 visits, the FCI Delegate will report to the FCI General Committee within 7 calendar days. All his travelling, accommodation and meal expenses related to the visits prior to the FCI World Show will be covered by the FCI. The expenses related to the visits prior to the FCI Section Shows will be covered by the relevant FCI Sections.

e. to inform the FCI General Committee by a comprehensive written report **(annex 4)** about the activities, to communicate the relevant complaints to this Committee and to help the FCI General Committee to deal with these matters, if necessary. A copy of the report should be sent to the president of the FCI Show Commission.

f. During the event, the FCI Delegate has the responsibility to make sure that the Regulations for FCI Dog Shows are properly observed. He will report possible cases to the FCI General Committee.

C If the official FCI Delegate is also a member of the FCI General Committee, he will represent the FCI at the show if no other FCI General Committee member is present.

D The FCI Delegate is to receive from the organiser the same daily allowance as the judges, as well as his travelling, accommodation and meal expenses for his mission during the event. That does not apply to the expenses related to the visits prior to the event.

The English text is the authentic document.

These regulations were approved by the FCI General Committee at the meeting in Berlin, on October 31st, 2007. They become effective from January 1st, 2008.

The changes in bold and blue characters were approved by the FCI General Committee during its online meeting on September 22, 2020.

The changes in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Committee in May 2025 in Budapest & September 2026 in Stockholm. They become effective on January 1st, 2027.

Appendix to the DOG SHOWS and SHOW JUDGES REGULATIONS of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale

COMPLEMENTARY RULES FOR THE TRAVEL EXPENSES OF THE JUDGES

1.

All usual travel expenses including real kilometrage, parking, train, bus, taxi, flight (a reasonably priced economy ticket including a cancellation insurance – if possible - and an option for changeability), as well as meals during travel to the show, incurred by a judge have to be reimbursed immediately on arrival.

2.

For judging at all **FCI** World and Europe Section Shows as well as at International **FCI** Shows organized in countries belonging to the FCI European Section, a judge is to receive from the show organiser, in addition to the previously mentioned costs (see item 1), an allowance of at least 50 € for each travel day and at least 75€ for each judging day, i.e., per international FCI-CACIB show held daily. ***The fee includes food and beverages on travelling days.***
If the judge travels by car, the corresponding kilometrage will be paid at 0.50 €/km.

For judging at an FCI Section Show as well as at FCI International Shows organised in countries belonging to the other FCI sections, the "allowance" amounts to at least 35 € (judging and travel day) in addition to the above costs (see item 1).
If the judge travels by car, the corresponding kilometrage will be paid at 0.35 €/km.

At all **FCI** international shows, organisers can provide daily allowance for their domestic judges according to national laws.

3.
Regardless previous points 1 and 2, judges and organisers can make agreements as long as both parties have consented and signed the terms prior to the show, and specifically when the relevant national tax regulations require so.

The English text is the authentic document.

The changes in bold and blue characters were approved by the FCI General Committee during its online meeting on September 22 2020.

The changes in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Committee in September 2026 in Stockholm. They become effective from immediately.