

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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Specifications for the Flyball Open World Cup (FOWC)



Contents

1 GENERAL3

2 APPLICATION and ASSIGNMENT3

3 REGISTRATION3

4 VENUE4

5 WEBSITE5

6 EQUIPMENT5

7 ORGANISATION CREW5

8 JUDGES’ MEETING6

9 MEASURING DOGS6

10 VETERINARY CHECK6

11 CATALOGUES6

12 CEREMONY6

13 INSURANCE7

14 PROTESTS7

15 DOPING7

16 FAIR PLAY7

17 ANNEX 18

These specifications have been approved by the FCI Flyball Commission during the meeting in Prague, on March 20th, 2016.

1 GENERAL

Flyball Open World Cup of the FCI (FOWC) is an international flyball tournament which is officially supported by the FCI and is governed by the latest FCI Regulations for flyball competition. The tournament is open to all dogs, which are associated to a National Canine Organisation of the FCI or a National Organisation with a close relationship to the FCI.

The event will be organized every second year during a weekend. On Saturday a Round Robin event in group phases will be held, determining the divisions of the Double Elimination on Sunday (specifications of the format in **Annex 1**).

For organisational purposes the number of competitors has to be limited to 25 teams per available ring. The available spots will be equally divided between the participating countries and every country can delegate proportionally. Remaining spots can be completed by the organizing country.

2 APPLICATION and ASSIGNMENT

National organisations that would like to organise FOWC shall apply in writing to the President of the FCI Flyball Commission, before the commission's meeting a year in advance.

The application will contain at least:

- Name of the National Canine Organisation
- Proposed date and place of the tournament
- Full description of the venue, including detailed description of floor covering
- Confirmation that all specifications according to this file and the general FCI Regulations for flyball competition will be met
- Number of available rings
- Technical description of the Electronic Judging System (EJS) that will be used
- The name and address of the person in charge of organising the event
- Amount of entry fee per team

The FCI Flyball Commission will entrust the organisation of the FOWC to a National Organisation that is a full member of the FCI. If there are several candidates for organisation, the commission will decide by voting.

3 REGISTRATION

The country that has been appointed to organise the FOWC, shall distribute the entry forms to the National Canine Organisations and to each member of the FCI Flyball Commission. These forms can also be made available online.

The entry form will contain at least the following information:

- Name of National Canine Organisation (NCO)
- Name and registration number of the team
- Team contact person and email
- Name of the team captain
- Best time of the team for their last three tournaments during the last six months
- Details of each dog: Official name, nickname, licence number, breed, date of birth, jump height, chip/tattoo
- Full Name of each handler
- Confirmation that all participants have read and accept the rules of the FOWC.

Six months prior to the FOWC each country delegate shall confirm by email to the organizer the number of teams from their country that will compete.

Three months prior to the FOWC the entry fee for every team shall be paid in full.

The **final** closing date for entry should be one month prior to the first day of tournament. The NCO is responsible that the payment of the entry fee arrives in time to the organiser.

The entries have to be sent via the NCO to the organisation. All entries have to be sent by the NCO which is an FCI member/contract partner or a member of the NCO with whom the FCI holds a close relationship (e.g. KC, AKC, CKC). Every participating country assigns one responsible person who is the direct contact with the organisation. Separate teams or individual participants shall not address directly to the organisation.

All competitors must have their legal residence in the country which they represent. No dog or handler shall be allowed to compete for more than one country. For all participating dogs a veterinary passport has to be presented.

Every team consists of minimum four and maximum six dogs and handlers, according to general FCI Regulations for flyball competition. If necessary, until one day prior to the tournament at noon, dogs can be changed.

The last winning team of the FOWC shall be automatically entitled to enter the FOWC following edition, outside the national quota to defend their title.

4 VENUE

The following criteria have to be taken into consideration in selecting a venue for the FOWC:

- An indoor venue has the preference. For outdoor venue, every ring needs at least to be covered from start line till the end of the backstops.
- No poles are allowed between the two lanes.
- The minimum dimension of each ring should be 10 x 35 m.
- It should be able to welcome a public in comfortable and safe conditions, including sufficient toilet facilities.
- There has to be sufficient space to warm up dogs without obstructing the tournament whatsoever. Refreshments (food and drinks) should be available for sale. Dog walking near the venue should be possible.
- It should be easily accessible and well signposted.
- There has to be decent camping facilities near the venue.

- A list of hotels should be available.
- The place of tournament is to be decorated with the flags of the competing countries and the FCI flag throughout the event.

5 WEBSITE

A full website has to be set up for the event. Available details about the venue, competitors, information for visitors, etc. should be published. This website should contain all latest information. By preference there is live coverage of the event, eventually by livestream. Preliminary results should be available on the website the same day.

6 EQUIPMENT

- A sound system has to be available where all announcements can be clear and understandable for everybody present. All announcements should be made in English and the native language of the organising body. The sound system should also be used for music during the opening, award and closing ceremonies.
- The organising body will need an IT system to run the tournament efficiently. For safety reasons backup procedures should be installed. All information of the running tournament should be made available to competitors and visitors during the completion. Mainly during elimination formats it is important that everybody can follow live the running orders.
- Every ring should contain a full Electronic Judging System, according to annex 4 of FCI Regulations for flyball competition
- In every ring 8 hurdles with sufficient spare parts have to be available. If a ground fixing system for the boxes will be available, the full technical description should be presented to the participating countries at least three months in advance. The day before the first day of the tournament every team should have the opportunity to test the fixation of the boxes. All equipment has to comply with all FCI regulations.
- At least two scanners for chip numbers have to be available.

7 ORGANISATION CREW

At least the following functions have to be appointed in advance:

- A tournament organiser, responsible for the whole organisation
- Secretariat: 1 responsible + at least 2 assistants for the secretary of the tournament
- Speaker that can comment both in English and in the native language
- For every lane in every ring, at least one line judge assigned by his/her NCO and fully aware of the operation of the EJS.
- For every ring at least one steward, responsible for the smooth working of the ring
- Parking and gate stewards
- Human first aid resources have to be present at the event premises
- Veterinarian: at least one official veterinarian has to be present during the entire tournament

The official head judges will be appointed by the FCI Flyball Commission. The organisation has to cover the expenses of the head judges, travelling expenses and accommodation and meals during the stay. Officials that own dogs participating at the FOWC may not perform their duties during the races where any of their dogs participate.

Members of the FCI Flyball Commission shall have free entry to all the event facilities of the FOWC.

8 JUDGES' MEETING

The day before the event a meeting will be attended by the head judges, the line judges and a representative of the organisation.

During the meeting all technical aspects about the tournament shall be discussed.

9 MEASURING DOGS

Every dog that has entered with a lower jump height as the maximum, from a country that does not apply the FCI measurement, has to be checked the day before tournament by judges who are assigned to officiate during the FOWC.

From countries that use FCI measurement correctly, dogs without final jump height have to be measured. Also 2 dogs from those countries with a lower final jump height as the maximum will be re-measured the same way. If both measured values differ from the declared jump height, all dogs with a lower final jump height from that country shall be re-measured.

A list shall be available with the recorded jump heights for every dog, including name, breed, chip/tattoo number, team and country for every dog. The Judges guidelines for the ulna measuring method at FCI international flyball competition issued by the FCI Flyball Commission, should be strictly followed.

The equipment to be used for measuring has to be validated by a member of the FCI Flyball Commission. A private, quiet area should be available to measure the dogs. The chip number of every dog that is measured will be checked prior to measuring.

A copy of the final list with all recorded heights and the measured values will be sent by the organizer to the president of the FCI Flyball Commission.

10 VETERINARY CHECK

Veterinaries designated by the organizer will check all dogs and passports the day before the tournament. Dogs that are not in perfect health will not be allowed to compete.

All dogs need to have their veterinarianian passport.

11 CATALOGUES

The organiser will provide catalogues containing all relevant and available information about the teams, dogs and the handlers, listed per country. The catalogue should also include a complete schedule of the tournament and a list of the offered prizes.

12 CEREMONY

An opening and closing ceremonies have to be organised. The organising body needs to ensure that the flag and name boards for every country and the flag of the FCI (to be applied for at the FCI headquarters or at the NCO of the organising country) are available. During the opening ceremony the assigned judges have to be presented.

For the award ceremony a podium must be provided with space for 6 handlers and 6 dogs on every step. Ensure that the national anthems of all participating countries are available.

A memento prize should be provided for each competitor.

13 INSURANCE

The organiser must have taken out an insurance policy with sufficient cover for personnel, judges and helpers. However, each competitor is expected to have a public liability insurance policy for consequences resulting from being a dog owner.

14 PROTESTS

The judges' decisions during the tournament shall be final and incontestable. Objections or protest shall be directed to the president of the FCI Flyball Commission, only by the responsible person from the country. Protests will be handled during the next commission meeting, or eventually the day of the tournament, in case at least half of the members of FCI Flyball Commission are present.

15 DOPING

All kinds of doping are forbidden, according to the FCI international guidelines about Dog Doping.

During the FOWC doping tests may be implemented. When a dog owner enters for the FOWC, the owner also agrees that the dog may be tested for doping. The basics of such doping tests will be made according to the national rules of the organisation.

16 FAIR PLAY

One of the objectives of the FOWC is to promote the cooperation and good sportsmanship in the participation of this event. Participants shall at all times be courteous and friendly and never conduct themselves in a manner that could bring any discredit to the sport of flyball. At no time should they show displeasure with a dog, judge, participants or spectators in or outside the ring. Each team and handler are supposed to act according to the general rules of fair play.

These specifications have been approved by the FCI General Committee in Paris, October 2016. They are effective from January 1 2017.

The changes in bold and italic were approved by the FCI General Committee on the occasion of its online meeting on 3-4 September 2020.

17 ANNEX 1

DAY 1 - GROUP PHASE - RR 3 heats - 10 races per group - 12 heats per team

100 races x 7 min = 700 min = 6:50 h /ring

<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>
team 1	team 2	team 3	team 4	team 5
team 11	team 12	team 13	team 14	team 15
team 21	team 22	team 23	team 24	team 25
team 31	team 32	team 33	team 34	team 35
team 41	team 42	team 43	team 44	team 45
<u>GROUP 6</u>	<u>GROUP 7</u>	<u>GROUP 8</u>	<u>GROUP 9</u>	<u>GROUP 10</u>
team 6	team 7	team 8	team 9	team 10
team 16	team 17	team 18	team 19	team 20
team 26	team 27	team 28	team 29	team 30
team 36	team 37	team 38	team 39	team 40
team 46	team 47	team 48	team 49	team 50

Country ranking after day 1

Points of the three highest teams per country

In case of equal points the average of the three best time per country is calculated and the fastest average time is put first of those two countries.

DAY 2 - DOUBLE ELIMINATION - DE BO5

86-90 races x 8 min = max 720 min: 6:20 h / ring

CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION - 12 teams (22-23 races)

all 1sts + 2 fastest 2nd

DIVISION 2 - 10 teams (18-19 races)

8 slowest 2nd + 2 fastest 3rd

DIVISION 3 - 10 teams (18-19 races)

8 slowest 3rd + 2 fastest 4th

DIVISION 4 - 10 teams (18-19 races)

8 slowest 4th + 2 fastest 5th

DIVISION 5 - 8 teams (14-15 races)

8 slowest 5th