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Specifications

for the organization of the

***FCI World Championship (FCI-WC) and the FCI European Championship (FCI-EC)
for Tracking Dogs according to FCI-IGP-FH regulations***



Table of contents

1. Application and award	3
2. Organisation	3
3. Trial Chairperson	4
4. Trial grounds and course of events	4
5. Trial judges and track supervisor	6
6. Admission and registration of competitors	7
7. Scorebook.....	9
8. Classification and FCI titles.....	9
9. Prizes	10
10. Protests	10
11. Insurance.....	10
12. General remarks.....	10

1. Application and award

- 1.1. The “FCI World Championship (FCI-WC) for Tracking Dogs” is held each year in April or May, the “FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) for Tracking Dogs” each year in October. The number of trial days is determined according to the number of entries. FCI national canine organisations (FCI-NCO) that would like to organise the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) must apply in writing to the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission at least two years beforehand. The application must contain:
 - The name of the FCI-NCO
 - The date of the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC) /FCI European Championship (FCI-EC)
 - The venue of the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC) /FCI European Championship (FCI-EC)
 - The name and address of the person in charge of organising the event.
- 1.2. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall entrust the organisation and running of the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) to an FCI-NCO, full member of the FCI. The awarding of the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) ensues by a majority decision taken by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission. In the case of a tied vote, the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall have the casting vote.
- 1.3. The FCI-NCO that is assigned to organise the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) shall bear full responsibility for the smooth and trouble-free running of the championship. The organising FCI-NCO shall make an application to the FCI for the awarding of the FCI-CACIT.
- 1.4. The NCOs are to be invited to compete by the organising FCI-NCO by September (FCI-WC) and February (FCI-EC) of the year preceding the FCI World Championship/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) at the latest.
- 1.5. The amount of the registration fee shall be set by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission (130 €).

2. Organisation

- 2.1. The minutes and resolutions of the meetings of the organising committee are to be submitted to the FCI track supervisor in writing in the ensuing weeks. The track supervisor is to be given a sketch of the ground in a scale of 1:10.000 showing the tracks.
- 2.2. It must publish a catalogue showing all entrants and the time schedule. The entrants shall be given catalogue numbers, which they must wear as numbers on their backs. The full text of item 8 CLASSIFICATION AND FCI TITLES of the Specifications for the organization of the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) for Tracking Dogs is printed in the catalogue. The most important parts of the catalogue must be drafted in two official FCI languages (one of them must be English).

- 2.3. The organiser shall request the NCOs to donate a prize in good time. The flags of the competing NCOs and the FCI flag are to be put in some appropriate place. The prizes donated can be listed in the programme. The allocation of these prizes shall be the responsibility of the organiser.
- 2.4. All results must be regularly entered on a results board easily visible to the public at a key place/stand but also in the track area (accompanying car)

3. Trial Chairperson

- 3.1. The **FCI**-NCO running the event shall provide a qualified trial chairperson for each group whose work shall include, in particular:
 - Technical running of the trial
 - Provision, planning and equipment of a sufficiently large track area
 - Providing a sufficient number of (at least 6) qualified tracklayers (stewards, stewards' supervisor, guides, office personnel, etc.);
 - The trial chairperson must make sure that the tracklayers have approximately the same weight.
 - Organisation of the track area and especially support the participants before the competition starts
 - Only the dog handler, the judge and the track layer can enter the track.
 - Preparing the evaluation sheets for the trial judges
 - Quick and reliable working out of the trial results to determine the winner and order of placing

4. Trial grounds and course of events

- 4.1. The FCI World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) for Tracking Dogs shall be held in accordance with **FCI-IGP-FH** regulations.
- 4.2. A key place/stand must be provided for competitors, spectators and trial personnel. A canteen must be available there to cater for the competitors, spectators and helpers. It is also recommended to have a moving canteen in the track area.
- 4.3. The organiser takes care of the transport service in the track area not only for the stewards, but also for competitors and spectators.
- 4.4. The tracking ground and the track laid should enable all competitors to have the same conditions. This also means the same number of sharp and right turns. The grounds cannot be of one uniform type; alternative grounds such as meadows, fields and ground with low plants are to be used. Obstacles such as fences, ditches, etc. are permitted as long as overcoming them does not cause the dog or the handler any undue difficulties. The ground used on the Friday can be used again on the Sunday. However, a competitor cannot work twice on the same track.

- 4.5. A time schedule approved by the supervisor for **FCI** World (**FCI-WC**) or **FCI** European Championships (**FCI-EC**) is to be drawn up by the organizer showing the presentation time for each competitor. This time schedule must be compiled in such a way that each competitor only has to work out one track in a day and in such a way that each competitor works out one track in the morning and the other one in the afternoon.
- 4.6. The competitors are to be allocated a training ground for tracking training which corresponds to the actual tracking ground.
- 4.7. A veterinary check is to be carried out before commencement of the trials. Dogs that appear sick and are suspected of being infectious are not admissible. Bitches in season are admissible on condition that they are kept separate from the other competitors. The veterinary check must be completed before the draw. A judge nominated by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission is to be present for the temperament check.
- 4.8. The possession and/or use of E-devices within the sphere of the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) as well as manipulation on the dog (doping) shall lead to disqualification, regardless of the legal situation in the organising country. The participation of sick or injured dogs is not permitted. In addition, the dog must not be affected in a prohibited manner, i.e. have been subject to measures aimed at inappropriately altering their appearance, performance or behaviour/character or concealing signs of injury or illness.

At the veterinary inspection, each competitor must present a veterinary certificate in English stating that the dog is physically able to meet the requirements of the test.

- The detailed rules on which treatments and measures are inappropriate should be communicated by the organiser's NCO at least 6 months before the **FCI-IGP** World Championship and published on its website.
- It is the responsibility of the person responsible for the dog to clarify how a possible treatment (e.g. waiting times after medical treatment) or other measures can affect the dog's eligibility to participate. The person in charge of the dog must also observe the regulations of his own NCO.

A doping test can be performed. If the NCO or the management for the championship decides to take a sample to investigate a possible doping or other inappropriate measures, the person responsible for the dog has to make the dog concerned available for examination and further examination resulting from the test.

- 4.9. Before commencement of **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**), the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall convene a trial judges meeting to be attended by the track supervisor, trial judges and the person in charge of organisation.
- 4.10. Before commencement of the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**), the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall call a team leader meeting to be attended by the track supervisor, trial judges and the person in charge of organisation, the trial chairperson and the team leaders. At the team leader meeting, the order in which the countries are drawn is determined by drawing lots. The competitors from the organising **FCI-NCO** shall get the final lot.

- 4.11. The draw for the starting order is to be conducted in public on the evening before the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**). The catalogue number with the lot number assigned by the draw must be made visible to all the competitors. The competitors from the organising **FCI-NCO** shall be the last to take part in the draw for the start numbers.
- 4.12. The length of the tracks at the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) can be shortened by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission in consultation with the person in charge of organisation. Information about the length of the tracks, in case it does not correspond to what is provided for in the **FCI-IGP-FH** regulations, about the situation and nature of the ground and about the shapes of the tracks are to be made known to the competitors. Samples of the articles used which must have the size defined in the Regulations must be submitted to the competitors via the team leader.
- 4.13. The tracks are laid for all competitors one after the other and at regular intervals.
- 4.14. After the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/ **FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall call a team leader meeting to be attended by the track supervisor, the trial judges, the person in charge of the organisation and the team leader. The event that just took place, experiences and possible improvements are discussed at the team leader meeting.
In case no meeting of the team leaders is called, the team leaders send their experiences and possible improvements in writing to the President of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission within 4 weeks after **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) for Tracking Dogs.
- 4.15. At the closing ceremony, the results of the individual and team scores shall be announced. The respective national anthem is to be played for the winner (individual and team). In addition, all competitors and teams that have been positively evaluated are to be called by name.

5. Trial judges and track supervisor

- 5.1. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall nominate one of its members as track supervisor to assume the duties of chief judge. The supervisor shall be responsible for compliance with all the regulations of the trial rules and the specifications. The organising **FCI-NCO** and the competitors must follow the instructions given by the chief judge in all respects.

The duties of the track supervisor, in cooperation with the organiser, shall include:

- cooperation in the selection of the tracking ground
- cooperation in drawing up the tracking time schedule
- guiding and possibly instructing the track layers
- determining the objects and order of laying them out
- arranging the numbering of the article and tracking boards
- checking the weathering of the articles and due and proper laying of the individual tracks and confirming the same for the acting trial judges
- having a track re-laid if it has been made unusable through external, third-party influences, e.g. changes in the ground through agricultural work, large groups of people, etc.

The track supervisor shall have the following rights:

- rejecting a section of the ground that differs greatly from the other tracks through unforeseen changes in the nature of the soil
- rejecting a track layer if he/she repeatedly does not follow instructions

5.2. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall determine on the basis of a proposal of the appointment committee two international IGP trial judges **of the FCI**. When selecting the trial judges, the **FCI-NCOs** competing at the **FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC)** are to be considered on a rotation basis. The trial judges appointed must have acted as a judge at a minimum of one major event during the previous two years. The **FCI-NCOs** proposing the judges shall be responsible for their professional qualifications.

If necessary, the appointment committee can replace the trial judge who was originally nominated upon consultation with the President of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission and the delegate of the FCI General Committee in charge. The original trial judge and the **FCI-NCO** responsible for this judge must be informed in writing giving the reasons.

5.3. The track supervisor and trial judges may not come from the organising **FCI-NCO**.

5.4. If the trial judges or the track supervisor only have a command of one language, an interpreter is to be provided by the **FCI-NCO** running the event. The interpreter must be familiar with the course of the trials, display a knowledge of cynology and observe discretion.

5.5. The decision of the trial judges shall be final and undisputable.

5.6. The track supervisor shall be paid by the organising **FCI-NCO** according to the FCI decision in this regard.

The rates set by the FCI with regard to mileage allowance and daily allowance apply in each case. In consultation with the organizer, the cheapest means of transport must be chosen in each case. If another means of transport is chosen, only the costs for the cheaper one will be reimbursed .

5.7. The trial judges shall be paid by the delegating **FCI-NCO** according to its rate.

6. Admission and registration of competitors

6.1. The total number of competitors taking part in the **FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/ FCI European Championship (FCI-EC)** is limited to 40.

6.2. Each competitor must be a member of an **FCI-NCO** or an organisation that has been invited to take part by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission. The right of an NCO to start in the **FCI World Championship/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC)** can be given according to the following principles, the application of which is left up to the NCO:

- Nationality
- legal residence (in accordance with the FCI Statutes)
- the dog owner must have the nationality of the country for which his/her dog will compete or must have his/her legal residence for a minimum of 12 months in the country for which he/she will compete. If the dog owner has a double nationality, he/she can choose either

country without any restriction. If difficulties arise, they must be referred to the FCI General Committee for final settlement.

- No matter his/her nationality, the dog handler will not be allowed to compete for more than one country and will be authorized to handle only one dog.
- The dog must have been registered with the studbook or appendix to the studbook of the country for which it will compete for a minimum of 6 months.

6.3. A maximum of 2 dog handlers per country can be admitted. Each handler may only enter with one dog.

In case less than 40 dogs are entered, the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission can allow, after discussion with the organiser, the registered substitute handlers to enter the Championships additionally with the dogs entered.

In case the number of registered substitute handlers is higher than the number of participants that are not registered (until 40) the selection of the teams with their substitute handlers to reach this number will be drawn during the meeting of the team leaders before the drawing of the starting order for the countries. The team leaders must be informed 8 days after the closing date for registration that the registered substitute handlers can take part to reach the number (40).

The decision is to be made known to the team leaders 8 days after the closing date for registration.

6.4. The winner of the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) for Tracking Dogs shall be automatically entitled to enter the Championship the following year outside the national quota to defend his/her title with the dog with which it won the title if registered by his/her country.

6.5. Each NCO can register one substitute entrant to the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/ **FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**); he is also to be listed in the catalogue. If any of the entrants registered in accordance with point 6.3 above cannot take part because illness/accident/ cannot be present they may only be replaced by the persons registered as substitute competitors. If the number of substitute competitors is higher than the number of dogs ill or that cannot be present the selection of the teams with their substitute handlers to reach this number will be drawn during the meeting of the team leaders before the drawing of the starting order for the countries. The team leaders must be informed immediately at the meeting of the team leaders.

6.6. Members of the organising committee may not take part in the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/ **FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) as dog handlers.

6.7. Only dogs selected by the NCO which have successfully passed a test according to **FCI-IFH** with a training degree (AKZ) can be admitted to the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**) / **FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**)

6.8. The dog must be registered in a studbook recognised by the FCI **or in the** "appendix to the studbook". In addition, dogs that are registered in the studbook of an organization that is a cooperating partner of the FCI may also participate.

Surgically castrated males and females are admitted if the original integrity is proven by a veterinary certificate.

- 6.9 The NCOs must make the number of entrants known by 31 December of the previous year (**FCI-WC**) and by 30 June of the year (**FCI-EC**) to the person in charge of organising the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**)
- 6.10. The NCOs shall send all the registrations with the names to the organiser together before the closing date for registration stated in the invitation. The registration must contain the following information:
- ◆ Name of the NCO
 - ◆ Name, address, telephone number and email address of the team leader(s)
 - ◆ Name, address, telephone number and email address of the competitors (substitute competitors)
 - ◆ Name of the dog, breed, date of birth, studbook number, identity mark (chip, tattoo, etc.), training degree, show assessment, sire, mother, breeder.

The registration must be signed by the NCO or by the person appointed by the NCO.

- 6.11. Registrations that cannot be considered shall be brought to the notice of the NCO concerned in writing without delay.

7. Scorebook

- 7.1. The competitors must show a scorebook issued by their NCO. The scorebooks are to be submitted to the organiser together by every NCO prior to commencement of the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**). If the national organisation does not issue scorebooks, an electronic score card can also be submitted.
- 7.2. The term “**FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**) /**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) for Tracking Dogs” must be clearly entered in each competitor’s scorebook in addition to the results.

8. Classification and **FCI** titles

- 8.1. The competitor with the highest total number of points and a passed trial shall be the winner and is awarded the title of "20xx (indicate the date) **FCI** World (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European (**FCI-EC**) Champion for Tracking Dogs". ***A dog registered with the appendix to the studbook is not eligible for the FCI-CACIT but is eligible to get the title of World Champion.***
- 8.2. The winner of the **FCI-WC/FCI-EC** shall be awarded the **FCI-CACIT**. The awarding of the **FCI-CACIT** is reserved for the breeds subject to a working trial in **FCI** groups 1, 2 and 3. Reference is made to the special **FCI-CACIT** provisions.
- 8.3. In the case of a tied score, the higher individual result shall be decisive. In the case of tied individual results, the competitors shall be classified in the same position ex-aequo.
- 8.4. The organising **FCI-NCO** shall send the **FCI** a list of results with the names and countries of the competitors. When drawing up the result list, the handlers with their dogs that have achieved the training degree shall be listed first. The other competitors without a training degree shall then be listed according to their score, numbered consecutively.

- 8.5 For the placing of the teams, each individual positive result (2 X 70 points) counts. The team winner of the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) is the team with the highest number of points. In case of a tied score team winner is the team with the best individual results. In case of identical individual results, the teams are placed equal.
For the calculation of the team points at least one participant must have two positive results.

9. Prizes

- 9.1. In the interest of promoting international working dog competitions, it is recommended that the **FCI-NCO** running the **FCI** World Championship (**FCI-WC**)/**FCI** European Championship (**FCI-EC**) donates a prize for the dog handlers.
- 9.2. A memento prize should be provided for each competitor.
- 9.3. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall be responsible for drawing up rules on the awarding of any challenge trophies. The challenge trophy/trophies shall be handed over by the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission or another commission member nominated by him when the results are announced.

10. Protests

- 10.1 The judges' decision shall be final and incontestable. Objections or protests shall only be possible on account of non-compliance with the International Utility Dogs Regulations (IGP) **of the FCI**. Any protest must be lodged with the track supervisor (chief judge) by the team leader. In such case, a guarantee bond of 500 € must be lodged at the same time which shall be forfeited in favour of the organisation if the protest is rejected.
- 10.2. The proceedings shall be conducted by the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission (or his deputy). The ruling on protests shall be made by the trials judges, the trial chairperson and the track supervisor. The decision taken by these persons shall be final.

11. Insurance

- 11.1. The organiser must have taken out an insurance policy with sufficient cover for personnel, the track supervisor, trial judges and helpers.
- 11.2. Each competitor shall him/herself bear the cost of any damage caused by his/her dog. Each competitor must provide proof with his/her registration application of holding a public liability insurance policy for consequences resulting from being a dog owner.
- 11.3. The local veterinary provisions must be observed.

12. General remarks

- 12.1 The provisions set down in the International Utility Dogs Regulations (IGP) and especially **FCI-IGP-FH** regulations must be adhered to strictly and precisely.

- 12.2 In cases of doubt and matters concerning the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) which are not provided for in these specifications, the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall make the final decision together with the respective trial judge and the track supervisor (chief judge) appointed by the Commission.
- 12.3. An invitation is to be given to the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission by the organiser of the FCI World Championship (FCI-WC)/FCI European Championship (FCI-EC) with the associated costs borne by the organising FCI-NCO.
- 12.4. The members of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall have free entry to all the event facilities of the FCI World Championship/FCI European Championship.

The German version is the authentic one.

These *original* specifications were approved at the meeting of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission held in Baunatal (Germany) on 16 September 2002 and ratified by the FCI General Committee in Rome, November 2002.

The changes in blue characters were approved by the FCI General Committee on the occasion of its online meeting in September 2020.

The changes in **bold and italic** characters were approved by the FCI General Committee in March 2024 in Thuin (BE).