

# FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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## INTERNATIONAL FIELD TRIAL REGULATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL AND PAIRED EVENTS FOR BRITISH POINTING DOGS

### A. ORGANIZATION

#### **Article 1**

To be eligible to take part in these trials, the dogs must be purebred, registered or registerable with an FCI recognized Studbook.

#### **Article 2**

Participation in trials with CACIT is open only to dogs defined in Art.1. Nevertheless, participation in these trials can be limited either on basis of the merit titles (qualifications previously obtained), or by running a trial according to sex or by restricting the number of competitors due to the limited space available in which to conduct the event.

There will not be less than 15 dogs in any individual type event nor will there be less than 15 pairs of dogs in any paired type of event.

Entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

Furthermore the following conditions will be fulfilled:

- a) These limitations must be published in the programme of events of the trials.
- b) The number of events with restricted participation as described above may not exceed the ratio of 1:3 in relation to the total number of trials wherein the CACIT is obtainable annually

A restriction is also allowed for team participation in the World and European Cup Championship events.

#### **Article 3**

The prescriptions with regard to the following points will be strictly enforced :

- a) If the trial is divided into several groups, the distribution of the dogs in the different groups by the organising committee will be such that a handler will only be allowed to compete in two of the groups.
- b) Bitches in season will be allowed to compete at the end of the round and only with each other, provided that the organizing committee has been informed of this fact in the morning of the event.
- c) Entry deadline: no entry will be accepted after the closing date.
- d) Withdrawals from the competition will only be refunded if they are announced 5 days before the trial takes place. However, bitches in season, injured or sick dogs may be withdrawn in the morning of the event upon presentation of a veterinary certificate. This also applies to acts of God.

#### **Article 4**

Aggressive dogs, dogs suffering from contagious diseases, dogs belonging to disqualified people or to people not member of organizations recognized by the FCI are not permitted to compete.

#### **Article 5**

Dogs shall be present when they are called at the meeting place. They must constantly be at the judge's disposal, failing which they could be excluded.

#### **Article 6**

In the case of Acts of God, the organizing committee reserves the right to cancel the competition. It will refund part or all of the entry fees.

#### **Article 7**

The FCI will only confirm the awards made in an event if the trial was conducted with at least 6 dogs.

#### **Article 8**

The compiling of groups will arrived at by the Chairman of the organizing committee whilst the pairing of dogs and the order in which they will run will be made by a draw.

In trials where dogs are required to run in pairs, should the number of dogs be uneven, then the judges will appoint a dog to run with the last odd numbered dog. The same will apply for any dog whose drawn brace mate is not present. On entry of 13 dogs or 13 pairs, the organizing committee may divide the competition in two groups. Under no circumstances can a group include more than 15 dogs or 15 pairs as the regulations provide that an event must be concluded in a single day unless acts of God prevail.

#### **Article 9**

All trials for paired dogs will be judged by at least 2 qualified judges, one of them being recognized by the FCI. In trials for single dogs, 1 qualified judge, recognized by the FCI, must preside.

In trials with pairs, the judges must position themselves in the field so that they can permanently observe the behaviour of the dogs. Any judge noting an eliminatory fault must immediately advise the chief judge who will decide whether or not to end the specific round.

At the end of the course of each couple, the judges will meet the president and each will report the points and faults of the two dogs that have just competed.

### **B. EXECUTORY REGULATIONS**

#### **Article 10**

The regulations prevailing in each country where the trials are being held will apply, insofar as they do not conflict with the rules and regulations of the FCI.

### **C. PRESENTATION**

#### **Article 11**

Neither the dog nor the handler will be allowed to wear or apply coercive or dressage devices during the trials.

**Article 12**

In all circumstances the handler will comply with the instructions given by the judges ; he will only talk to his dog or use his whistle with the greatest discretion, i.e. provided it never prejudices his opponent. In paired events, the handlers will walk side by side.

After the dog has completed the point, the handler will re-leash the dog and place it at the disposal of the chief judge.

**Article 13**

At the beginning of each round, a period of one free minute will be granted during which credit will be given for any positive work. Any fault committed will not cause elimination, although the judges may take such faults into consideration in the final classification. An unused or abused opportunity during this minute will not give an automatic right to a second round.

In case of a change of area where the dog has been re-leashed, timekeeping will be stopped until the handler recasts the dog. When the round resumes, as well as in case of a recall, the flushing of and putting up of game on its first cast into the wind to the left and right will not be counted as a fault.

**Article 14**

The duration of the first round will be at least fifteen minutes and it will be run into the wind unless the dog commits an eliminating fault or is not up to standard.

If a dog is eliminated before the end of a round when running in pairs, its brace mate will be allowed to complete its remaining time after all the pairs have run their first round and before the next recall round.

**Article 15**

The judges are allowed to recall the dogs as often as they want and for as long as they find it necessary. They are also allowed to give a classification after a single round. The judges are at liberty to decide how long a recall round will be.

**Article 16**

When the end of the round is called, no work, whether good or bad, will be considered, unless the dog becomes totally out of control and cannot be immediately recalled by its handler -which would be considered a fault. However, if such dog has run the course with great merit up to that point, it will only be possible to award at the most the classification CQN.

**Article 17**

Wherever possible, the judges will endeavour to have the dogs working in similar conditions. They will take into consideration the intelligence shown while working in difficult conditions. In the event of doubtful cases, such a situation will always be to the benefit of the dog.

**Article 18**

It is compulsory that a shot be fired when the game is flushed. When numerous points have been made, a shot must at least be fired at one of them.

## D. CLASSIFICATION

### **Article 19**

No award will be given to a dog that has not had at least one point on the feathered game referred to in the programme of the events:

- a) during the spring and summer trials, only points made on naturally-occurring feathered game (partridges and should the occasion arise pheasants) will be taken into consideration by the judges.
- b) during the summer and autumn practical hunting trials, which must take place during the hunting season as prescribed in the national regulations of the country in which the trials are held, any point made on game which is referred to in the programme will be taken into account; however, only a point on feathered game will give right to an "excellent".

A point begins with the finding of the scent, followed by the point itself, a possible relocation, steadiness to flush of the departing game, and steadiness to shot (in practice, this is followed by a retrieve)

The round is only to be considered over once the handler puts the lead on his dog. A point made on feathered game can not be considered if the birds are not flushed.

A dog must work determinedly and effortlessly in front of its handler, on its instructions, and must cast with sustained contact with the scent of the game.

A judge must penalize a dog that casts with difficulty or is helped by its handler.

Under the circumstances, long outward casts may be tolerated provided that they are completed energetically, purposefully and successfully. Refusal by the dog to cast is an eliminatory fault. The casting may not be confused with the drawing in on and roading upon the establishment of the scent and game.

### **Article 20**

CQN will only be awarded to those dogs showing great natural qualities whilst competing in a round of at least 10 minutes and also having had a point on game, however having made an eliminating dressage fault, or having in a practical hunt refused to retrieve game shot. This also applies to refusal of a cold retrieve in the trial.

### **Article 21**

The judges will not only base their classification on the number of times a dog points game, but rather on the overall quality of the points. The judges will pay particular attention to the gait and style of the breed, their hunting sense and the purpose of the search, their scenting ability and their ability to handle game. Their initiative and intelligence displayed whilst hunting, the determination displayed in the approach to and the retrieve of game, and the dog's obedience and its dressage are also taken into consideration.

The work must be typical of the breed type, also in accordance with the type of trial being run, the density of the vegetation, and the type of terrain being hunted.

The dog must cover its assigned terrain with hunting sense and method. It must always be under the handler's control whereby it must, if possible, display maximum initiative

The natural and typical gait of the breed must be energetic and sustained, and it must never slacken off the tone of its work.

Should the judges not have consensus on how to interpret an action, then the dog should be given the benefit of the doubt.

At the end of a round, the judges will give a qualification and grading according to the following scale hereunder:

* from 0 to 5	= unsatisfactory = zero
* from 5 to 10	= good
* from 10 to 15	= very good
* from 15 to 20	= excellent

### **Article 22**

In order to be awarded a CACIT, a dog must have had a flawless and first class performance.

Should several CACIT be awarded in the different groups in the same competition, a run-off will be organized at the end of the day to determine the CACIT winner. This run-off will be judged on basis of the dog's style in relation to its breed; only eliminatory faults will count against the dog.

- \* In order to be classified, a dog can not have made an eliminatory fault
- \* To be eligible for the "excellent", the dog must remain absolutely steady when the game flushes.
- \* The dog that has flushed game mentioned in the programme without any justification can only be awarded a "very good".

### **Article 23**

The following are to be considered eliminatory faults:

- 1) A dog that is unsatisfactory (in respect of its hunting ability, gait or dressage) in the trial, or does not hunt actively during the first minute
- 2) A dog that has an inadequate search or that is out of control, or that searches too far (without contact with the handler)
- 3) A dog that constantly barks
- 4) A dog (in paired events) that obstructs its brace mate by trailing it or a dog that persistently points without result
- 5) A dog that fails to back its pointing brace mate spontaneously. At the practical hunt (autumn) discreet help in backing will be accepted.
- 6) A dog that deliberately flushes game once, after having acknowledged its presence
- 7) A dog that on two occasions either misses or flushes game referred to in the programme
- 8) A dog that has had three solid points in different directions without having proved anything

- 9) A dog that chases fur or feather without being able to be checked at the first attempt during a round
- 10) A dog that is obviously gunshy.

Also, in practical hunting trials:

- 11) A dog that fails to find shot and downed game which has been acknowledged as such by the judges.
- 12) A dog that proves to be hard mouthed
- 13) A dog that refuses to retrieve either from a kill off its own point or retrieve off a saluted and cold, previously killed, head of game (this only applies to game referred to in the programme)

**Article 24**

The judge's decision is that of their majority. In case of an equal number of votes, the chief judge's vote will prevail. There can be no appeal against the judge's decisions.

**Article 25**

At the end of the competition, the chief judge will announce and comment the results. He will announce the classification of dogs that are awarded qualifications (Exc, VG, G, CQN) to the organizers before the judges leave.

**Article 26**

The provisions of these regulations should be considered a minimum FCI set of rules and are binding for every FCI member country. National regulations may only set stricter criteria.

Translation : Barry Kraut, Frank Poretti

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