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SPECIFICATIONS

for the organisation of the

FCI World Championship for

Search and Rescue Dog Teams



Valid as from 01/01/2025

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1. Application and award

- 1.1. The “FCI World Championship for Rescue Dog Teams” is held every two years in June. The exact date is at the discretion of the organiser. National organisations that would like to organise this World Championship must apply in writing to the President of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission, at least two years beforehand.

The application must contain:

- The name of the national organisation
 - The date of the World Championship
 - The venue of the World Championship
 - The name and address of the person in charge of organising the event
- 1.2. The FCI Rescue Dogs Commission shall entrust the organisation and running of the World Championship to a national organisation that is a full member of the FCI. The awarding of the World Championship ensues by a majority decision taken by the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission. In the case of a tied vote, the president of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission shall have the casting vote.
- 1.3. The national organisation that is assigned to organise the World Championship shall bear full responsibility for the smooth and trouble-free running of the championship. The organising national body shall make an application to the FCI for the awarding of the CACIT.
- 1.4. The national organisations of the FCI are to be invited to attend by the organising national body by September of the year preceding the World Championship at the latest.
- 1.5. The amount of the registration fee shall be set by the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission. The registration fee is made up of the starting fee and a contribution to the expenses for the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission.
Starting fee is 350, 00 EUR per team (includes €. 50, 00 for the Rescue Dogs Commission)

2. Organisation

- 2.1. The minutes and resolutions of the meetings of the organising committee are to be submitted to the FCI supervisor in writing in the ensuing weeks.
- 2.2. It must publish a catalogue showing all teams and team members and the time schedule. The entrants shall be given catalogue numbers, which they must wear as numbers on their backs. The most important parts of the catalogue must be drafted in English and in the national language of the national organising body.
- 2.3. The organiser shall request, preferably with the invitation, the national organisations to donate a prize in good time. The arena is to be decorated with the flags of the competing national organisations and the FCI flag throughout the event. 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.

3. Trial Chairperson

3.1. The national organisation running the event shall provide for every section a qualified trial chairperson, whose work shall include, in particular:

- Technical running of the section.
- Provision, planning and equipment of a sufficiently large trial area
- Providing a sufficient number of qualified helpers (marshals, tracklayers, helpers, office personnel, etc.)
- 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 for Search and Rescue Dog Teams shall be held in accordance with the FCI *International Trial Rules of the Search and Rescue dogs Teams Tests*.

The opening and closing ceremony and the "Obedience" and "Dexterity" phases have to be carried out in an arena with a well-tended lawn.

4.2. If possible, there must be a covered stand to protect spectators from bad weather. Sufficient car parking spaces must be provided for competitors and spectators in front of and near the arena. A canteen must also be available, in the arena where possible, to cater for the competitors, spectators and helpers. For the spectators, there has to be a good sight to all exercises so that they can follow the exercises.

4.3. The tracking ground for the "Tracking" task should enable all teams to have the same conditions. 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 Thursday and Friday can be used again on the Saturday and the Sunday. However, a competitor cannot work twice on the same track.

4.4. A time schedule is to be drawn up showing the presentation time for each team. This time schedule must be compiled in such a way that every team has a period of at least one hour between the individual trial sections. The order of the trial sections can be different.

4.5. The teams are to be allocated a training ground for tracking training which corresponds to the actual tracking ground.

4.6. Before commencement of the World Championship, the teams are to be given time for training of the different phases. The time available is to be divided among the number of teams.

- 4.7. A veterinary check is to be carried out before commencement of the World Championship. Dogs that appear sick and are suspected of being infectious are not admissible. Bitches in season are admissible without restrictions. The veterinary check must be completed before the draw. A FCI Rescue Dog Judge must be present for the temperament check.
- 4.8. The use of E-devices within the sphere of the World Championship shall lead to disqualification, regardless of the legal situation in the organising country. Any accusation must be accompanied by written evidence and witnesses.
- 4.9. Before commencement of the World Championship, the president of the FCI Rescue 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 World Championship, the president of the FCI Rescue 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.
- 4.11. The phase "Obedience and Dexterity" is to be demonstrated in the arena to ensure that the desired sequence is clear to every competitor.
- 4.12. The draw for the starting order is to be conducted in public on the evening before the World Championship. The catalogue number with the lot number assigned by the draw must be made visible to all the competitors. The team from the organising national body shall be the last to take part in the draw for the start numbers.
- 4.13. At the closing ceremony, the national rankings shall be announced. The respective national anthem is to be played for the first placed teams in all 4 disciplines.

5. Judges and supervisor

- 5.1. The FCI Rescue Dogs Selection Committee nominates the supervisor and the judges as planned by the guidelines of the Selection Committee of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission.
- 5.2. The supervisor shall be responsible for compliance with all the regulations of the trial rules and the specifications. ***The supervisor can judge the section with the fewest entered dogs (usually F - tracking).*** He has to be an official FCI IPO-R judge and member of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission.
The organising national body and the competitors must follow the instructions given by the ***supervisor - judge*** in all respects.
- 5.3. The supervisor and the judges may not come from same country or from the organising national body.
- 5.4. If the judges or the supervisors only have a command of one language, an interpreter is to be provided by the national organisation running the event. The interpreter must be familiar with the course of the trials, display knowledge of cynology and observe discretion.
- 5.5. The decision of the judges shall be final and undisputable.

- 5.6. The supervisor and the judges are paid by the national organising body, **according to FCI directives and Commission decisions.**

6. Admission and registration of competitors

- 6.1. The total number of competitors taking part in the World Championship shall not be limited. If the situation requires it, the president of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission can limit or increase the numbers in consultation with the organiser.
- 6.2. Each competitor must be a member of a national organisation that is affiliated to the FCI or has been invited to take part by the Rescue Dogs Commission. The right of a national organisation to start in the World Championship can be given according to the following principles, the application of which is left up to the national organisation:
- 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 the appendix to the studbook of the country for which it will compete for a minimum of 6 months.

Registration of the teams must be made through the national organisation.

- 6.3. Each rescue dogs team consists in a team leader (without dog) and 3 teams (= a dog handler and a dog). In addition, each rescue dog team is allowed to register a reserve team, who are also to be listed in the catalogue. If any of the team registered cannot take part because illness/accident, it may only be replaced by the team registered as reserve team.
- 6.4. Members of the organising committee may not take part in the World Championship as dog handlers.
- 6.5. At the **FCI** World Championship, **no matter their breed and size**, the only dogs allowed to compete are those registered with the studbooks or the appendix to the studbooks of an FCI member organisation or contract partner as well as those registered with the studbooks or appendix to the studbooks of a non FCI member organisation with which the FCI has entered into a cooperation agreement of mutual recognition of registries (AKC, RKC, CKC).
- 6.6. The national organisation 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 national organisation
- Composition of the team
- Name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the team leader(s)
- Name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the competitors (substitute competitors)
- Name of the dog, breed, and date of birth, stud book number, identity mark (chip, etc.) training degree, show assessment, sire, mother, and breeder.

The registration must be signed by the national organisation.

- 6.7. The national organisations must inform the person in charge of organising the World Championship about the participating teams by minimum 4 weeks before (registration form) and minimum 5 weeks before (application form) of the year in question.
- 6.8. The national organisation must send all the registrations with the names to reach the person in charge of the organisation of the World Championship by the closing date stated in the invitation.
- 6.9. Registrations that cannot be considered shall be brought to the notice of the national organisation concerned in writing without delay.

7. Scorebook

- 7.1. The competitors must show a scorebook issued by their national organisation. The scorebooks are to be submitted to the organiser together per national organisation prior to commencement of the World Championship.
- 7.2. The term "FCI Rescue Dogs Team World Championship" must be clearly entered in each competitor's scorebook in addition to the results.

8. Classification and title

- 8.1. The team with the highest total number of points in Area Search shall be the winner and be awarded the title of "20XX (to indicate the date) FCI Rescue Dog Team World Champion in Area Search".
- 8.2. The team with the highest total number of points in Tracking shall be the winner and be awarded the title of "20XX (to indicate the date) FCI Rescue Dog Team World Champion in Tracking".
- 8.3. The team with the highest total number of points in Rubble Search shall be the winner and be awarded the title of "20XX (to indicate the date) FCI Rescue Dog Team World Champion in Rubble".
- 8.4. The team with the highest total number of points in Universal shall be the winner and be awarded the title of "20XX (to indicate the date) FCI Universal Rescue Dog Team World Champion".

8.5. In the case of a tied score, the higher individual result in scent work shall be decisive. In the case of tied individual results in scent work the teams shall be classified in the same position *ex aequo*.

8.6. The organising national body shall send the FCI a result list with the names and countries of the teams as well as details about the dog handlers and the dogs.

9. Prizes

9.1. In the interest of promoting international working dog competitions, it is recommended to the national organisations that the national organisation running the World Championship donate a prize for the dog handlers.

9.2. A memento prize should be provided for each competitor.

9.3. The FCI Rescue 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 Rescue 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 rules. Any protest must be lodged with the supervisor (chief judge) by the team leader. In such case, a guarantee bond of € 300 must be lodged at the same time which shall be forfeited in favour of the Rescue Dog Commission (FCI account) if the protest is rejected.

10.2. The proceedings shall be conducted by the president of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission (or his deputy). The decision on protests shall be made by the supervisor, the section judge, and the section chairperson. The decision taken by these individuals shall be final. ***However, if the protest is against the supervisor, and the supervisor is also acting as a judge, the decision on the protest shall be made by the president, one vice president, the section judge, and the section chairperson.***

11. Insurance

11.1. The organiser must have taken out for the event an insurance policy with sufficient cover for personnel, supervisor, 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 Trial Rules of the Search and Rescue Dogs Teams Tests must be adhered to strictly and precisely.
- 12.2 In cases of doubt and matters concerning the World Championship which are not provided for in these specifications, the president of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission shall make the final decision together with the respective trial judge and the supervisor (chief judge) appointed by the Commission.
- 12.3. An invitation is to be given to the president of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission by the organiser of the World Championship, with the associated costs borne by the organising national body.
- 12.4. The members of the FCI Rescue Dogs Commission shall have free entry to all the event facilities of the FCI World Championship.

13. Meeting of the Rescue Dogs Commission

- 13.1 The FCI Rescue Dogs Commission shall meet at the place of the World Championship after the World Championship.
- 13.2 The person in charge of organising the World Championship or the organising national body shall be obliged to provide a suitable seminar room for such a meeting.
- 13.3 The person in charge of organising the World Championship shall ensure that English interpreters are provided who have knowledge of cynology.
- 13.4. The costs of the room and the interpreters shall be borne by the national organisation running the event.

The English version is the authentic one.

The changes in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Committee, in Amsterdam, 3rd September 2024.