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Specifications

for the organization of the FCI IPO World Championship for Utility Dogs

These specifications were approved at the meeting of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission held in Nova Gorica / Slovenia on 17 March 2001. They also contain amendments arising from the meetings of 17 September 2001, 9 February 2002 (introduction of the pool of judges), 16 September 2002 (no more assistant judges), 13 September 2004, 13 March 2006, as well as the meetings of 17 and 18 March 2007 (changes to the pool of judges). They supersede all previous versions.

1. Application and award

1.1. The "FCI World Championship for Utility Dogs" is held each year on the first or second weekend of September. National organisations that would like to organise this World Championship 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 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 Utility 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 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 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 January of the year of the World Championship at the latest.

1.5. The amount of the registration fee shall be set by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission. The registration fee is made up of the starting fee plus the amount for the FCI training degree.
Starting fee € 80 (includes € 20 for the Utility Dogs Commission for the training degree).

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 entrants and the time schedule. The entrants shall be given catalogue numbers, which they must wear as numbers of their backs. The most important parts of the catalogue must be drafted in the four FCI languages.
- 2.3. The organiser shall request the national organisation 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 a qualified trial chairperson for each section, whose work shall include, in particular:
 - Technical running of the trial
 - Provision, planning and equipment of a sufficiently large trial area
 - Providing a sufficient number of qualified helpers (marshals, tracklayers, protection 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 Utility Dogs shall be held in accordance with IPO Class 3. Obedience and the protection phase have to be carried out in an arena with a well-tended lawn.
- 4.2. 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.
- 4.3. The tracking ground should enable all competitors to have the same conditions. The ground does not have to be of one uniform type; alternative grounds such as meadows, fields and ground with low plants can also 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. The track supervisor is to be given a sketch of the ground in a scale of 1:5000 showing the tracks. There must be at least five qualified track layers available.
- 4.4. A time schedule is to be drawn up showing the presentation time for each competitor. This time schedule must be compiled in such a way that each competitor has a period of at least two hours between the individual trial sections. (Bitches in season are given a ten minute break between obedience and protection work). The order of the trial sections can be different.

- 4.5. The competitors are to be allocated a training ground for tracking training which corresponds to the actual tracking ground.
- 4.6. The teams are to be given time for training in the arena for the obedience and protection work sections on the morning of the World Championships. The time available is to be divided among the number of competitors.
- 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 and are the last to compete in the obedience and protection phases. The veterinary check must be completed before the draw. A judge nominated by the Utility Dogs Commission is to be present for the temperament check.
- 4.8. The two protection helpers actually used and two deputy helpers are to be chosen from a minimum of four protection helpers made available by the organiser, with the choice made by the chief judge and the two trial judges for the protection phase. The protection helpers must use the protective clothing, i.e. protective sleeve, protective trousers, determined by the FCI.
- 4.9. 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.
- 4.10. Before commencement of the World Championship, the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall convene a trial judges meeting to be attended by the supervisors, trial judges and the person in charge of organisation.
- 4.11. Before commencement of the World Championship, the president of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall convene a team leader meeting to be attended by the supervisors, 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 country shall get the final lot.
- 4.12. An obedience and protection phase is to be demonstrated in the arena with the selected protection helpers to ensure that the desired sequence is clear to every competitor.
- 4.13. 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 competitors from the organising national body shall be the last to take part in the draw for the start numbers.
- 4.14. The length of the tracks can be shortened by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission in consultation with the person in charge of organisation. The length determined and information about the ground and the forms of the tracks is to be made known to the competitors. Samples of the articles used must be submitted to the competitors via the team leader.
- 4.15. Obedience and protection work are to be carried out in the arena, alternating in one and the same place. During the obedience test, only the items required shall be present (hurdle, climbing wall, dumbbells, blind for the "down" drill); only the 6 search blinds shall be set up during the protection work. Positions and distances are to be marked using white chalk.

4.16 At the closing ceremony, the results of the individual scores shall be announced first and then the national rankings. The respective national anthem is to be played for the individual and national winners. In addition, all competitors that have been awarded a minimum score of “very good” are to be called by name.

5. Trial judges and supervisors

5.1. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall nominate one of its members as 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 national body and the competitors must follow the instructions given by the chief judge in all respects.

5.2. The judges and the supervisors shall be selected from the pool of judges by an appointment committee designated by the FCI commission. The pool of judges was established on the basis of a resolution adopted by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission (meeting of 09.03.2002) in order to bring together particularly experienced, proven and recognised judges from the various national organisations. Each national organisation can propose trial judges for the pool and remove them again at any time. The pool of judges may contain a maximum of 4 judges per national organisation and a cynological CV must be submitted for each of these persons. When selecting the trial judges, the national organisations attending the World Championships 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 with at least 40 competitors during the previous two years. The national organisation proposing the judges shall be responsible for their professional qualifications.

5.3 The FCI Utility Dogs Commission confirms the trial judges selected by the appointment committee for tracking (1), obedience (1) and defence (1). ***Should the occasion arise, the appointment committee can withdraw and replace a selected judge. This withdrawal will be discussed with the member of the General Committee who is responsible for the FCI Utility Dogs Commission and will be announced together with the justification, in writing, to the judge and the NCO responsible for the judge.***

5.4. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall confirm a trial judge selected by the appointment committee as supervisor for the tracking work. 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 articles 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

5.5. The supervisors and trial judges may not come from the organising national body.

5.6. If the trial judges or 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 a knowledge of cynology and observe discretion.

5.7. The decision of the trial judges shall be final and incontestable

5.8. The supervisors and trial judges shall be paid by the organising national body. The corresponding rates shall be set by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission in consultation with the organising national body.

Resolution by the Utility Dogs Commission dated 17 September 2001: € 0.30 per km, daily allowance € 35, accommodation according to receipt.

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 Utility Dogs Commission can limit 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 Utility 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 appendix to the studbook of the country for which it will compete for a minimum of 6 months.

Registration must be made through the national organisation.

- 6.3. A maximum of 5 dog handlers per country can be admitted. Each handler may only enter with one dog. In the case of too few registrations, the president of the Utility Dogs Commission can allow the registered substitute handlers to enter the Championships for their team additionally. The decision is to be made known to the team leaders immediately after the closing date for registration.
- 6.4. The winner of the FCI World Championship for Utility 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 national organisation can register two substitute entrants to the World Championship, who are 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, they may only be replaced by the persons registered as substitute competitors.
- 6.6. Members of the organising committee may not take part in the World Championship as dog handlers.
- 6.7. Only dogs selected by the national organisation which have successfully passed a test according to IPO 3 with a training degree (AKZ) can be admitted to the World Championship.
- 6.8. 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, KC, CKC)
Castrated bitches and male dogs can be admitted if proof of original intactness is furnished by way of a veterinary certificate.
- 6.9. The national organisation shall send all the registrations to the organiser together before the closing date for registration. The registration must contain the following information:
- ◆ Name of the national organisation
 - ◆ 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, stud book number, identity mark (chip, tattoo, etc.), training degree, show assessment, sire, mother, breeder.

The registration must be signed by the national organisation.

- 6.10. The national organisations must make the number of entrants known to the person in charge of organising the World Championships by 1 July of the year in question.
- 6.11. The national organisations must send registrations with the names to reach the person in charge of organising the World Championships by the closing date stated in the invitation.
- 6.12. 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 World Championship for Utility Dogs" must be clearly entered in each competitor's scorebook in addition to the results.

8. Classification and title

- 8.1. The competitor with the highest total number of points and minimum qualification of "very good" in the individual scoring shall be the winner and be awarded the title of "20xx (to indicate the date) FCI Utility Dog World Champion".
- 8.2. The winner shall be awarded the CACIT. The awarding of the CACIT is reserved for the breeds subject to a working trial in FCI groups 1, 2 and 3. Reference is made to the special CACIT provisions.
- 8.3. In the case of a tied score, the higher individual result in Phase C shall first be decisive, then the higher individual result in Phase B. In the case of tied individual results, the competitors shall be classified in the same position ex- aequo.
- 8.4. All competitors that have achieved a positive result shall be included in the team score. The three highest overall results per team shall be considered. In the case of a tied score, the higher score in Phase C shall first be decisive, then the higher score in Phase B. If the scores are tied in the individual sections, the teams shall be classified in the same position ex aequo. The team with the highest number of points shall be awarded the title of "FCI Utility Dog World Team Champion".
- 8.5. The organising national body shall send the FCI a result list 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.

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 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.

9.4. After the World Championship, the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall award a commemorative medal to each dog handler who has achieved the training degree with his/her dog.

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 IPO 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 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 chief judge, the section judges and the trial chairpersons (plus the track supervisor if tracking work is concerned). 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, supervisors, 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 *FCI Guidelines for International Working and Tracking Dog Trials, IPO-3 Class*, must be adhered to strictly and precisely.

12.2 In cases of doubt and matters concerning the World Championships 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 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 World Championship, with the associated costs borne by the organising national body.

12.4. The members of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall have free entry to all the event facilities of the FCI World Championship for Utility Dogs.

13. Meetings of the FCI Utility Dogs Commission

13.1. The FCI Utility Dogs Commission shall meet at the venue of the World Championship on a Saturday in the middle of March and on the Monday 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 meetings.
- 13.3 The person in charge of organising the World Championship shall ensure that German-English and German-French interpreters are provided who have a knowledge of cynology.
- 13.4. The costs of the room and the interpreters shall be borne by the national organisation running the event.

The German version is the authentic one.

These specifications were approved by the FCI General Committee in Berlin in October 2007 and are valid as from March 1st 2008.

The changes in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Committee in Helsinki, October 2013.