

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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REGULATIONS OF THE FCI EUROPEAN CUP FOR HOUNDS (HARE AND WILD BOAR)

(Excepted for trials with hare, « Solo » category)



PART I

GENERAL PROVISIONS : TRIALS OF THE FCI EUROPEAN CUP FOR HOUNDS (HARE AND WILD BOAR) (Excepted for trials on hare, « solo » category)

CHAPTER I

BASIC PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1 : OBJECTIVES

These trials aim at promoting, breed specifically, the hunting capacities of the hounds, issuing hunting certificates and putting the focus on sires for their qualities of utilisation. It also aims at promoting hunting with hounds throughout all the European countries of the members affiliated to the FCI.

ARTICLE 2 : CATEGORIES

These trials are reserved for gunshot hunting hounds.

- Gunshot hunting trial on hare, reserved for braces and packs.
- Gunshot hunting trials on wild boars reserved for solos, braces and packs.

ARTICLE 3 : ADMITTED DOGS

Only the following dogs are allowed to compete :

- having reached the minimum age of 12 months (for the trials on hare)
- having reached the minimum age of 15 months (for the trials on wild boar)
- There is no upper limit age to compete. The Working Champions are admitted.

ARTICLE 4 : MINIMUM SCORING

The dogs that have not gained a minimum of 100 points will not be rated.

ARTICLE 5 : WORKING BOOK

The working book is optional but recommended.

ARTICLE 6 : CLAIMS

The judging is final and undisputable. The claims against the way the hunt was conducted must be directed, in writing and on the day of the trial, to the president of the FCI commission for hounds, together with a deposit amounting to twice the entry fee of a lot. The organisers will retain the deposit in case the claim is recognised ill-founded. The other claims can be filed at any time. All the claims will be examined by the FCI commission for hounds.

CHAPTER II

PANEL OF JUDGES

ARTICLE 7 : COMPOSITION

Several official judges panels operate simultaneously, under the responsibility of the president of the FCI Commission for Hounds. The latter coordinates their actions and has the final word in case of disagreement between judges.

The panels comprise, **at least** :

- For trials on hare (brace) : 2 judges
- For trials on hare (pack) : 3 judges
- For trials on wild boar (solo) : 2 judges
- For trials on wild boar (brace) : 2 judges
- For trials on wild boar (pack) : 3 judges

The judges' panels can be accompanied by a maximum of 3 guides.

It is the president's duty to make sure that the regulations are properly applied. From a regulation standpoint, he is an advisor and educator for the members of the judges' panels, the competitors and the organisers. During the trial, the judges are strictly forbidden to give information to the competitors.

ARTICLE 8 : TRAVELLING AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS OF THE JUDGES

Every NCO will bear the travelling and accommodation costs of their own judges.

The organisers will book the rooms for the judges into a comfortable hotel and will take care of all transportations during the trials.

CHAPTER III

ORGANISATION

ARTICLE 9 : ORGANISATION OF THE TRIALS

The trials are organised by the commissions for hounds of every FCI-NCO, with the agreement of the FCI, and provided that they have been approved by the NCO of the organising country. They are open to all dogs belonging to the breeds of hounds of the 6th group, provided that they are registered with the studbook of an FCI-NCO.

ARTICLE 10 : RESPONSIBILITIES

The organising NCO has to subscribe a liability insurance in its capacity of "event organisers".

ARTICLE 11 : TRIALS TIMING

The trials can take place between September until end of March.

ARTICLE 12 : ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORISATIONS

For every trial, the authorisations are applied for based on the regulations in force in the organising country.

ARTICLE 13 : GROUNDS

The trails can take place on any ground provided that it meets with the characteristics of a real hunting terrain. It must be large enough to possibly enable the participation of several lots as the organisers will do their best to make sure that all competitors operate in the best possible conditions. The game must be natural and it can under no circumstances be freed before the trials.

CHAPTER IV

DISCIPLINE

ARTICLE 14 : NON-COMPETING DOGS

The dogs that are not entered must be on leash and it is forbidden to take bitches in heat on the grounds. The dogs whose barks are a nuisance to the events have to be immediately taken off the trial grounds.

ARTICLE 15 : SPECTATORS

During the trials, the spectators who follow in their cars cannot disturb the trial and have to yield the way to the judges and organisers' cars. The spectators (vs judges, officials and competitors) who are walking are not allowed to go into the woods and the fields. They cannot walk on their own on the trial grounds. They are prohibited from giving any information to the competitors, neither orally nor by visual or sound signs. Doing so will result in immediate disqualification of the competitors.

ARTICLE 16 : COMMUNICATION MEANS

The competitors are strictly forbidden to use radiotelephones, mobile telephones or any other communication means during the whole duration of the trial. Any competitor failing to observe that ruling; no matter the reason, will be immediately disqualified. The president of the judges panel will provide a detailed report to the president of the FCI Commission for Hounds, who will forward his opinion to the FCI. Only a hunting horn can be used. The judges can communicate by any means at any time.

CHAPTER V

ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 17 : ENTRIES

In order to be valid, the entries have to be made using the correct document, indicating the birthdate, the studbook and registration number, the identification number and possibly the number of the working book. Proof of payment of the entry fees has to be provided along with the document.

No entry will be accepted after the deadline set by the organisers. The latter reserve the right of participation, without having to justify their decision.

The following dogs are not admitted : aggressive dogs, dogs affected by a contagious disease, dogs belonging to people who are disqualified or affiliated to clubs/societies not recognised by the FCI.

Upon entering a dog in a trial, its owner commits to :

- respecting the regulations (or having them respected in case the dog is presented by a handler) and, among others, not giving substances or applying procedures that can artificially modify the capacities of the dog ;
- observing the instructions and/or decisions of the judges ;
- not doing anything that can disturb the trials ;
- to subscribing an insurance covering any damage caused by the dog to a 3rd person.

ARTICLE 18 : ENTRY FEE BY LOT

The FCI Commission for Hounds yearly sets the amount of the entry fee.

ARTICLE 19 : CANCELLATION OF THE TRIALS

In case of force majeure, the organising NCO reserves the right to cancel the trials and retain the part of the entry fees that cover the expenses already incurred. The organising NCO informs the president of the FCI Commission for Hounds.

ARTICLE 20 : STUDBOOK REGISTRATION

All the participating dogs must have a pedigree issued by an FCI-NCO.

ARTICLE 21 : CERTIFICAT D'APTITUDE AU CHAMPIONNAT DE TRAVAIL INTERNATIONAL DE LA FCI (FCI-CACIT)

In order to obtain the FCI-CACIT, a dog must have gained a minimum of 160 points.

PART II

HUNTING TRIALS

CHAPTER I

ORGANISATION

ARTICLE 22 : COMPOSITION OF THE LOTS

Number of dogs, number of handlers

On hare :

- **The braces** will be handled by a maximum of two handlers.
- **The packs** will comprise between 4 and 6 dogs. They will be handled by a maximum of three handlers.

On wild boar :

Every lot competing in the FCI European Cup is made up of a minimum of six dogs and a maximum of 8 dogs. A maximum of three handlers is allowed. Two possible tracks ("pieds") must be presented to the competitor, materialised by pieces of wood ("brisées"). A drawing of lot will determine the track where the loose will take place. The handler cannot check the tracks before. Doing so will result in disqualification. The dogs must be specifically wild boar-hunting dogs.

The dogs hunting an animal different from a wild boar will be eliminated and immediately taken off the lot. However, the rest of the lot is not disqualified and is allowed to keep hunting.

Substitute dogs :

Bitches in heat and injured dogs can be substituted in the lot, on the day of the trial, provided that the substitutes are indicated on the entry form. Their number is limited to the half of the number of the effective participants. After the drawing of lot, only the injured dogs can be substituted.

ARTICLE 23 : HUNTING CERTIFICATES

The qualifications FAIRLY GOOD – GOOD – VERY GOOD - EXCELLENT can be awarded based on a range of points (enclosure 1) from 0 to 200, for each trial.

- 100 to 114 : qualification FAIRLY GOOD
- 115 to 134 : qualification GOOD
- 135 to 149 : qualification VERY GOOD
- 150 to 200 : qualification EXCELLENT

ARTICLE 24 : HANDLERS

During the trial, the handlers are only allowed to walk. If a handler uses a vehicle, the lot is immediately stopped by the judges and disqualified. If a dog got away from the pack, the handlers are allowed to go walking and get it back, on leash or not, in the pack. Any dog put in a vehicle without the jury's approval will be eliminated.

CHAPTER II

CONDUCT OF THE TRIALS

ARTICLE 25 : ALLOCATED TIME

Every pack or lot to be judged is given the following time, from the moment of the loose :

- ✓ Trial on hare : 1 hour and 30 minutes, maximum, with a minimum of 1 hour.
- ✓ Trial on wild boar : 2 hours maximum and 1 hour and 30 minutes as a minimum.

The time taken to check the identification of the dogs and their breed type is not included in the time allocated to do the trial. At the beginning of each trial, the president of the jury will indicate to the competitors the time they are given from the moment of the loose. The time has to be the same for all the lots.

ARTICLE 26 : ARMBANDS

The organisers must provide yellow armbands to the judges and red armbands to the handlers.

ARTICLE 27 : COLLARS

27-1 The dogs competing for a hunting certificate must wear identification collars. They must be provided by the organisers; they must be from different colours and be clearly visible.

The use of different collars, of different colours, is forbidden.

27-2 The use of training collars is not allowed.

27-3 The use of collars equipped with location system is compulsory to find out the dogs after the trial, and more particularly in difficult areas. However, after making sure that the collars are not technically equipped to act as training collars, the president of the jury will be given the receptor box. It will then be handed back to the competitors at the end of the trial. Only the collars "CE approved" are authorised. The check will be carried out by the president of the jury.

ARTICLE 28 : RUNNING ORDER OF THE LOTS AND ALLOCATION OF THE HUNTING GROUNDS

The running order of the lots for the competition day is determined by a single drawing of lot, carried out on the day before the event, under the sole responsibility of the president of the FCI Commission for Hounds. The competitors are called by alphabetical order. The number drawn by the competitor determines the running order. The number of the hunting ground where the loose takes place will be drawn in the morning, before the trial starts, by the president of the FCI Commission for Hounds. An organiser can under no circumstances do the drawing of lot.

Every hunting ground where there is a loose, must be identified with a number on a map or in a table where the name of the place and the nr of the ground are indicated. On the ground, every place where a loose takes place is indicated with a sign including the number which corresponds to the number on the map or in the table. The organisers set the time when the competitors are called. If a competitor, or his representative, is not there when called and cannot take part in the drawing of lots for the day, he will then have to make himself available to the jury who will decide the time where his lot will perform. However, for important reasons, the president of the commission can modify the running order. In that case, the owner of the lot must accept the running of order he's given by the jury.

ARTICLE 29 : WAITING FOR THE JURY'S INSTRUCTIONS

On the ground, the lots have to be constantly at the disposal of the jury. The competitors must prepare their dogs during the performance of the preceding lot in order not to generate any delay in the organisation.

ARTICLE 30 : AWARDED POINTS

The dogs have to be assessed according to the standard of the breed or to the style which is proper to the breed. The dogs will be rewarded based on their performance on the day. The points awarded will be based on the range of points in force (enclosure 1).

ARTICLE 31 : RANKING

The pack with the highest points will be designated "Winning PACK of the FCI European Cup for Hounds" provided that the jury has considered the performance sufficient. All the other packs will be ranked.

The brace with the highest points will be designated "Winning BRACE of the FCI European Cup for Hounds" provided that the jury has considered the performance sufficient. All the other braces will be ranked.

In the trials (solo) on wild boar; the dog with the highest points will be designated "Winner of the FCI European Cup for Hounds – Solo trials". All the other dogs will be ranked.

ARTICLE 32 : INTERRUPTION OF THE ONGOING TRIAL

The judges can, at any time, ask the owners to remove one or several dogs without taking into account the number of points that were given.

In case the hunting crosses an unauthorised ground or in case of obvious danger (a close road, railway, etc.) or for any other reason, the president of the judges' panel can, at any time, decide to stop the trial.

In case of change of ground, the timekeeping will be stopped while the team is moving, and it will resume once the loose takes place again. The president of the judges' panel can also decide to put a definitive end to the trial. In that case, the dogs will retain the points gained during their performance, from the start of their work until the stop of the trial. No claim from the competitors will be accepted.

ARTICLE 33: END OF THE TRIAL

When the judges have marked the end of the trial, most often by using a hunting horn, the lot has to be taken back as soon as possible in order not to disturb the next lot. The organiser has to ensure that the judges, the handlers and the dogs are taken back from the place where the trial ended.

These regulations were adopted by the FCI Commission for Hounds on 21st October 2022 in Cacak (Serbia).

They were approved by the FCI General Committee on 21st March 2023, in Budapest.

They become effective on the day of their publication.

The French version is the authentic one.

RANGE OF POINTS

	HARE Brace and packs	WILD BOAR Solo	WILD BOAR Brace	WILD BOAR Packs			
Compliance to the standard	10X3	10X3	10X3	10X3			
Nose	10X3	10X1	10X1	10X1			
Qualities: giving tongue, cry	10X2	10X2	10X2	10X2			
Ability to get close to the game and have it running away	10X2	10X5	10X4	10X4			
Activity, questing, persistence in work...	10X3	10X2	10X2	10x2			
General style, particular dispositions (1)	10X3	10X2	10X2	10x2			
Ability to join and hunt in pack	10X1		10X1	10x1			
Self-confidence to follow the trail, obedience, flexibility (1)	10X2	10X3	10X3	10x3			
Stamina, strength	10X1	10X2	10X2	10x2			
Total	200	200	200	200			

- (1) Wild boar: water work ability and facing the wild boar that decides to stand in front of the dog.
 Faults leading to the elimination of one or all dogs: refusal to enter the wallow ("*refus de la bauge*"), dog hunting in the wrong direction ("*contre du rapprocher*"), refusal to hunt the wild boar that decides to stand and face the dog ("*refus des chiens au ferme*").
 Any dog hunting any animal other than a wild boar must be removed from the lot. A CQN (Certificat de Qualités Naturelles – Natural Aptitudes Certificate) cannot be issued in wild boar trials.

For all the trials, faults leading to a loss of 1 to 30 points: a dog that quits the trail to take it back further ("*coupeur*"), a dog hunting without barking ("*céleur*"), a slack dog ("*musard*") a dog that barks even though not being on the trail ("*criant à faux*"), a dog that takes the track from the opposite side ("*rabattant sa voie*"), a dog that runs away from the game instead of getting closer ("*chassant le contre*"), a shotgun-fear dog ("*peur du coup de feu*").