

# Schutzhund Sport Ordinance

*This ordinance regulates Dog Sport Competitions for German Shepherd Dogs in the Federation where the intention is competitive rather than the gaining of Training Test Qualifications, the latter which is regulated by the Training Ordinance*

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## **Section 1**

### **Responsible Authorities**

#### **1.1 National Sport Committee**

1.1.1 The Sport Ordinance is controlled by the National Sport Committee which is established in terms of Section 8 of the Constitution.

#### **1.2 National Administration**

1.2.1 The National Administration must ensure that the rules specified in this ordinance are adhered to.

## **Section 2**

### **Recognised Competitions**

#### **2.1 Official competitions are based on the following tests:**

- a) SchH 1, SchH 2 and SchH 3 (Schutzhund 1, 2 or 3)
- b) Any other test approved by the WUSV

2.1.1 The rules for these competitions are determined by the WUSV.

2.1.2 When changes are made to rules by the WUSV, the National Sport Committee will determine a suitable implementation date.

2.1.3 Results of all competitions based on official Federation Training Tests shall be recorded in the participant's standard Training Test Record Book.

#### **2.2 National Protection Dog Championships**

2.2.1 The major annual competition is the National Protection Dog Championships.

2.2.2 It is the responsibility of the National Sport Committee and the National Administration who may delegate the hosting of the competition to a province or club.

2.2.3 The National Administrator together with the National Sport Committee will decide the distribution of income and expenses between the Federation and the host clubs.

- 2.2.4 Expenses with regard to the judge and prizes shall be by prior agreement between the clubs hosting the event and the Executive Committee.
- 2.2.5 The rules for the event shall be according to the official Schutzhund rules for each category.
- 2.2.6 Special regulations set by the National Sport Committee may be promulgated for the event and must be stipulated on the schedule announcing the event.
- 2.2.7 Dogs must qualify for the title related to the event they are entered for at the latest by the closing date of the entries.

## **Section 3**

### **Organising Competitions**

#### **3.1 General**

- 3.1.1 A comprehensive First Aid box must be available at all competitions.

#### **3.2 Appointment of Judges and Officials**

- 3.2.1 Unless otherwise specified, the selection of the judge(s) and officials is the responsibility of the organising committee and appointment is subject to approval of the National Sport Committee.
- 3.2.2 A separate judge may be appointed for each test or section of a test.
- 3.2.3 Judges who are not on the Federation's or the SV's judges' panel must be approved by the Executive Committee before they may be invited.
- 3.2.4 A reserve judge may be appointed who can be contacted by telephone in the event of an invited judge withdrawing.
- 3.2.5 Clearance of all foreign Judges must be channelled through the National Administration well in advance of the required dates.
- 3.2.6 Applications to clear foreign judges must be made well in advance and in writing to the National Administration and must be accompanied by guarantees that all expenses regarding judge(s) will be paid.
- 3.2.7 The National Sport Committee is responsible for the appointment of Judges and Helpers as well as the Event Manager at the National Protection Dog Championships.

### **3.3 Application for Dates**

- 3.3.1 Applications to hold training tests must be made to the National Administration at least two (2) weeks in advance.
- 3.3.2 The application must provide at least three alternative dates

### **3.4 Certificates and Prizes**

- 3.4.1 Prizes and certificates are issued on the authority and initiative of the organisers concerned.
- 3.4.2 Schedules must clearly state whether trophies will be given.
- 3.4.3 The National Administration must be informed of results within three working days after each event.

### **3.5 Entry Forms and Schedules**

- 3.5.1 All Schedules must be approved by the National Administration.
- 3.5.2 Entry forms must be in a format approved by the National Administration and must be completed in full by the owner of the dog(s) or the owner's nominee.
- 3.5.3 Only dogs belonging to the same owner(s) may be entered on one form and a different form must be completed for each different owner or combination of owners. In the case of more than one owner, the address entered on the entry form must be the address of the owner taking responsibility of the dog on the day of the test.

### **3.6 Closing Date of Entries**

- 3.6.1 Event organisers reserve the right to allocate the closing date.
- 3.6.2 Test schedules should clearly stipulate closing dates and must be distributed to potential participants through the local clubs at least three weeks prior to the closing date.
- 3.6.3 Should the closing date stipulated on the test schedule fall on a weekend or public holiday, the date of the first normal working day will apply.
- 3.6.4 The test organisers accept no responsibility for lost postage or entries not received. Entries delivered by hand or sent by fax must be in possession of the test secretary at midday on the date at which entries close.
- 3.6.5 Entries withdrawn after the closing date are not repayable. People refusing to pay entry fees will be liable to disciplinary action under the Federation's disciplinary rules.

### **3.7 Acceptance of Entries**

- 3.7.1 Mailing of the entry form, sending the entry form by fax or internet or handing the entry form to the Federation office confirms the acceptance of the event regulations by the owner(s) and receipt of the entry form by the Federation office obliges payment of the entry fees by the owner(s).
- 3.7.2 Accepting telephonic entries will be totally at the discretion of the event committee. When telephonic entries are accepted, an entry form must be completed before the start of the test. Where possible, use should be made of Fax or e-mail facilities.
- 3.7.3 There is no obligation to accept a late entry after the official closing date stipulated in the show schedule.

### **3.8 Entry Fees**

- 3.8.1 Entry fees for competitions are determined by the Council who may also stipulate a levy payable to the National Administration. It is the duty of the organising committee to enquire about the relevant fee applicable.
- 3.8.3 Event organisers may, provided this is stipulated on the schedule announcing the test, levy a fine not exceeding one half of the total entry fee, as a prerequisite for the acceptance of a late entry.

### **3.9 Competition Catalogues**

- 3.9.1 For Provincial and National Tests, all entries including late entries must be shown in the correct classes of the official catalogue, a copy of which must be made available to all participants. Late entries to be shown as part of the official catalogue, no inserts or loose leaflets are permitted in the back of the catalogue.
- 3.9.2 Where available, breed show gradings and training qualifications must be added to the name of the dog entered as well as its parents. If the dog is breed surveyed, the appropriate symbol (\*) must also be added.

## **Section 4**

### **Rules Governing Participants**

#### **4.1 General**

- 4.1.1 Except for dogs entering under Schedule V – *Foreign and Non-member Participants*, all dogs participating must be registered on either the Federation's Breed or Identification registers.
- 4.1.2 Dogs may only participate in one event per competition.
- 4.1.3 Participants may not enter more than two (2) dogs per competition.
- 4.1.4 Bitches in season are permitted to participate, provided they are kept separate from all other participating dogs and work last in all sections.

#### **4.2 Tattoo**

- 4.2.1 All dogs entered at a competition must be identifiable by a legible tattoo number according to the Federation's tattooing regulations.

#### **4.3 Age**

- 4.3.1 Age limitations for competitions are specified in the Training Ordinance
- 4.3.2 Under-aged dogs will be disqualified and all qualifications and awards forfeited.

#### **4.4 Withdrawal**

- 4.4.1 Dogs entered and present at a competition may only be withdrawn with good reason and with the permission of the Judge.
- 4.4.2 Dogs withdrawn without such permission will be judged as having failed the applicable test.

## **Section 5**

### **Competition Procedures**

#### **5.1 General**

- 5.1.1 A maximum of fourteen (14) dogs (SchH 1 – 3) or twenty (20) dogs for any other competition may be judged on one day with one judge. Should the entries exceed this figure, the completion has to be extended by a half or full day or alternatively additional judges must be appointed.
- 5.1.2 The tattoo numbers of all participating dogs must be checked by the judge or competition manager before the start of a competition.
- 5.1.3 Participants are obliged to know the rules of the competition and to abide thereby.
- 5.1.4 Participants may not consume alcohol until the events of the day have been completed. Violation of this rule will lead to immediate disqualification from the competition and offenders shall leave the premises where the competition is being held.

#### **5.2 Late Arrivals**

- 5.2.1 In the event of a late arrival, which was not the fault of the owner or handler, the dog may participate in the last draw number position provided that one section of the test has not been completed.
- 5.2.2 A late evaluation by another Judge is not permitted.

#### **5.3 Handling Dogs on the Right-hand Side**

- 5.3.1 Disabled Handlers who are unable to work their dogs on the left-hand side may work their dogs on the right-hand side.

#### **5.7 Equipment Permitted**

- 5.7.1 Unless otherwise specified, dogs may wear only a loose, plain chain collar (choke chain).
- 5.7.2 The use of remote control devices, electrical shock collars, or sharpened spike collars is not permitted.
- 5.7.3 It is compulsory for helpers to wear proper protection suits, arms and correct footwear e.g. studded boots.

5.7.4 The protection arm may be left or right hand and must be approved by the officiating Judge.

5.7.5 Helpers may only use leather covered soft sticks.

## **5.8 Objections**

5.8.1 Unless otherwise specified all objections must be submitted in writing to the Event Manager accompanied by a deposit of which the amount will from time to time be determined by the Council. Such representations must be made within seven (7) days of the event.

# **Section 6**

## **Representative Teams**

### **6.1 National Team**

6.1.1 Candidates must be bona fide members of the Federation.

6.1.2 Citizenship of the Republic of South Africa is not mandatory, provided that candidates are permanent residents of South Africa and have resided in South Africa for at least six (6) months.

6.1.3 The structure of the team shall be determined by the rules of the relevant competition.

6.1.4 Team selection shall be by the National Sport Committee who shall set all necessary requirements in respect thereof.

### **6.2 Teams at the National Protection Dog Championships**

#### **6.2.1 Club Teams**

- a) Candidates shall nominate the club as their "first club"
- b) Club teams shall consist of two dogs and handlers.
- c) A maximum of 2 teams may be entered by one Club.
- d) Both scores shall count towards the team score.

#### **6.2.2 Provincial Teams**

- a) Candidates must be bona fide members of the Federation and fall under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Organisation they are to represent.

- b) A team shall consist of four dogs and handlers.
- c) Only 1 team may be entered per province.
- d) Only SchH 3 qualified dogs are eligible.
- e) The best 3 out of 4 scores will count towards the team score.

## **Section 7**

### **Sport Medal Award**

- 7.1 Where applicable, points to be awarded towards the Federation's Sport Medal Award is specified in the Training Ordinance.