

Training Ordinance

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Section 1 Responsible Authorities

1.1 National Training Committee

- 1.1.1 The Training Ordinance is controlled by the National Training Committee which is established in terms of Section 8 of the Constitution.
- 1.1.2 Training Supervisors must submit reports to the National Training Supervisor when required. Failure to do so may result in loss of voting rights.

1.2 National Training Supervisor

- 1.2.1 The National Training Supervisor is the permanent chairperson of the National Training Committee and is elected in terms of Section 9 of the constitution.
- 1.2.2 He is a member of the Executive Committee and is responsible for the overseeing of training matters in the Federation.

1.3 Local Club Training Supervisor

- 1.3.1 Local club training supervisors are appointed in terms of Schedule II of the constitution.
- 1.3.2 A local club Training Supervisor has the task to ensure that the Training Ordinance is observed by his/her club and to oversee training.

1.4 National Administration

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

1.5 Voting Rights

- 1.5.1 Voting rights on the National Training Committee are qualified. Only delegates representing fully accredited Federation clubs and who, in their private capacities, fulfil the following minimum requirements may vote:
 - a) Must be an active trainer in the Federation club being represented and
 - b) Must have qualified at least one dog in “Begleithund” or;
 - c) Must be a member of the Training or Breed Survey Helpers’ Panels or;
 - d) Must be a member of the Training Judges’ Panel.

Section 2 Training Tests

2.1 Recognised Training Tests

2.1.1 Current official tests are:

- a) IGP 1, IGP 2 and IGP 3
- b) IFH 1, IFH 2 (Tracking Dog/"Fährtenhund"),
- c) IGP-FH (Advanced tracking test),
- d) BH-VT (Companion Dog/"Begleithund"),
- e) IAD (Endurance Test),
- f) Any other test approved by the WUSV as adopted from the SV/FCI

2.1.2 The rules for these tests are determined by the WUSV as adopted from the SV/FCI.

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

2.1.4 Any dog not in possession of a SchH 1 or an IPO 1 title that has passed all three phases of a SchH 1 or IPO 1 test, irrespective of whether such phases were passed over several trials (no time limit is applied), will be awarded the title of P-SchH or P-IPO (Phased SchH or IPO) until a legitimate IGP 1 title can be obtained. The qualified disciplines will be recorded in the standard Award Book. This method of titling is not allowed for IGP.

A dog that has obtained P-SchH or P-IPO in this way may not enter IGP 2 until it has completed an IGP 1 in the conventional way (i.e.: all 3 disciplines passed at the same trial). Similarly, a dog that has P-SchH or P-IPO may not enter a National Protection dog Championship until an IGP 1 title has been earned at a single trial.

2.2 Informal Tests

2.2.1 Local clubs may hold informal tests which may incorporate novelty events at the discretion of the Committee provided that such events do not in any way conflict with the aims and image of the Federation.

2.2.2 No qualifications awarded at informal events will be official.

Section 3 Organising Training Tests

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 A comprehensive First Aid box must be available at all tests.
- 3.1.2 A minimum of four (4) dogs must be entered on the closing date stipulated on the official schedule before a training test may be held.

3.2 Appointment of Judges

- 3.2.1 The Executive Committee will maintain an “Approved Foreign Judges Panel” of at least twenty (20) acceptable Training Test / IGP Sport judges with recommendations thereto by the National Sport Committee and Mainstream Clubs, and ensure that these judges agree to abide by all the Federation’s rules and regulations. Only foreign judges on the Approved Foreign Judges Panel may be invited to officiate. Parties wishing to include foreign judges on the Approved Foreign Judges Panel must submit a full CV of the judge to the Executive Committee who will decide whether to include the judge on the panel.
- 3.2.2 Judges on the SV Executive may only be invited to officiate at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 3.2.3 The selection of the judge(s) is the responsibility of the club’s organising committee and appointment is subject to approval of the National Training Supervisor.
- 3.2.4 A separate judge may be appointed for each test or section of a test.
- 3.2.5 A reserve judge may be appointed who can be contacted by telephone in the event of an invited judge withdrawing.
- 3.2.6 Clubs wishing to invite a foreign Judge must confirm the appointment and the date with the judge directly, preferably one year in advance of applying for a test date.
- 3.2.7 When foreign Judges are invited, Clubs should make maximum use of such Judges by arranging for them to give seminars, judge’s courses, etc. Clubs must note that any requests in this regard have to be cleared in advance by the authorities in the country from which the judge originates (including the SV). Clubs must therefore check, before application is made, that the judge(s) they may wish to invite is qualified to present the required additional obligations.
- 3.2.8 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.

3.2.9 No Club may approach the registration authorities of a foreign country (including the SV) directly.

3.2.10 Judges officiating at national trials must be accredited senior judges.

3.3 Application for Dates

3.3.1 Applications to hold training tests must be made to the National Administration at least seven (7) working days in advance of the event.

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 official Training Test Record Book must be completed in respect of every dog that successfully completes a training test.

3.4.4 The National Administration must be informed of training test 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 Test organisers reserve the right to allocate the closing date which in all cases must be at least three working days before the event.

- 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 show 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 Test 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.
- 3.7.4 Informal events – Procedure may allow for entries on the day.

3.8 Entry Fees

- 3.8.1 Entry fees for shows 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.
- 3.8.2 Entry fees for informal events are determined by the relevant organising club and no levy will be payable to the National Administration.
- 3.8.3 Clubs 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 Test Catalogue

- 3.9.1 Local Club Tests do not require a catalogue.
- 3.9.2 For the National Protection Dog Championships, 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.
- 3.9.3 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 (Angekört), the appropriate symbol (*) must also be added.

Section 4 Rules Governing Participants

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 Except for dogs entering under Schedule IV – *Foreign and Non-member Competitors*, 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 test.
- 4.1.3 Participants may not enter more than two (2) dogs per test excluding the endurance test.
- 4.1.4 A handler may handle more than two (2) dogs in a BH-VT trial, provided the club and judge agree thereto.
- 4.1.5 Bitches in season are permitted to participate, provided they are kept separate from all other participating dogs and work last in all sections.
- 4.1.6 Bitches in season, whelp or weaning and weak dogs are not permitted to participate in an endurance test.
- 4.1.7 Dogs having obtained an IGP 2 equivalent or higher qualification may not be entered in a lower level test except once after a change of ownership has taken place in which case the participant is excluded from receiving any trophies or awards.

4.2 Identification

- 4.2.1 All dogs entered at a Training Test must be identifiable by a Federation recognised identification.

4.3 Age

- 4.3.1 On the day of testing, the dog must have met the minimum age required according to the International Utility Dogs Regulation of the FCI adopted by the WUSV. However, it is recommended that formal training for BH-VT should not start before ten (10) months of age and training methods suitable for puppies, avoiding impact and compulsive training, should be used. A maximum age for an AD is additionally set by the Federation at 6 years.
- 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 test, 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 test.

Section 5 Test Procedures

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 The maximum number of dogs that may be judged in a trial on one test day with one judge, is governed by current FCI rules. This however, may not exceed 20 dogs per judge in an IAD and BGH trial. Should the entries exceed this figure, the test has to be extended by a half or full day or alternatively additional judges must be appointed.
- 5.1.2 The identification of all participating dogs must be checked by the judge or test manager before the start of a test.
- 5.1.3 Participants are obliged to know the rules of the test 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 test and offenders shall leave the premises where the test 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.

5.4 Training Test Record Book

- 5.4.1 A Training Test Record Book forms part of the official record of the dog and can be obtained from the National Administration or a local club secretary.
- 5.4.2 Only one Training Test Record Book may be issued for each dog.
- 5.4.3 Lost Training Test Record Books must be reported to the National Administration which will replace the book according to the laid down procedures.
- 5.4.4 Owners of dogs are obliged to ensure that the results of all test results are entered in the dog's Training Test Record Book.
- 5.4.5 Upon transfer of a dog to a new owner the dog's Training Test Record Book must be handed to the new owner together with all other documents belonging to the dog.
- 5.4.6 Whilst the National Administration will make every attempt to maintain a record of the tests participated in, proof of a qualified test shall be solely based upon the Training Test Record Book in possession of the owner of the dog.
- 5.4.7 In the event of a participant failing to hand in the dog's Training Test Record Book, all qualifications and awards will be withheld until the Training Test Record Book has been received by the Test holding Club.
- 5.4.8 Training Test Record Books are to be completed at the end of the test by the Judge, Test Manager or Test Secretary and handed back to the owner of the dog.

5.5 The Judging (excluding endurance test)

- 5.5.1 Points are to be awarded immediately for each dog after the completion of each section. Short oral reports on the allocation of gradings and points must be given publicly.

5.5.2 The Judge's decision is final and a dispute is not permitted.

5.6 The Test Area

5.6.1 The National Protection Dog Championship requires the minimum size of a rugby field.

5.6.2 Endurance tests require various types of roads and paths such as gravel, tar, dirt road, etc.

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 Trial 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 Sport Medal Award

6.1 General

The following medals are awarded:

6.1.1 Dog Handler Sport Medal:

- a) Bronze - 20 points accumulated within 3 years
- b) Silver - 35 points accumulated within 3 years

- c) Gold - 50 points accumulated within 6 years

6.1.2 Dog Handler Platinum Sport Medal

- a) A first place at the National Protection Dog Championships with an “Excellent” overall grading or
- b) 150 points

6.2 Conditions

- 6.2.1 The responsibility of applying for an award will be the handler’s, who must provide full details of the points the dogs have earned.
- 6.2.2 Application must be made in writing and addressed to the National Administration who will consult with the National Training Supervisor.
- 6.2.3 Only points obtained in official Federation held BH, SchH, IPO, IGP and FH, tests will be considered for the award. Participation in IWT is excluded from this award.
- 6.2.4 Points for SchH 3, IPO 3 and IGP 3 only, will be counted for the same dog as many times as a minimum overall grading of “Good” is obtained. Points for all other tests will be counted once only per dog.
- 6.2.5 Only points obtained by dogs which were handled by the applicant during the tests will be considered.
- 6.2.6 Lending or borrowing of trained dogs to obtain points is not permitted.
- 6.2.7 Should a dog handler work two (2) dogs during a test, (immaterial at which level), points for both dogs may be allocated, provided all other requirements are met.

6.3 Points Calculation

Type of Test	Test Results			
	Qualified	Good	Very Good	Excellent
BH/BH-VT	1	-	-	-
SchHA/IPOA	1	2	3	4
SchH1/IPO1/IGP1	1	3	4	5
SchH2/IPO2/IGP2	1	5	6	7
SchH3/IPO3/IGP3	1	7	8	9
FH/IFH/IGP-FH	1	5	6	8

6.4 Bonus Points

- 6.4.1 First, second or third placings in the SchH 3, IPO 3 and IGP 3 competition at a National Protection Dog Championship - double points
- 6.4.2 Selection and participation in the National Team - 10 points.
- 6.4.3 Obtaining the equivalent of a qualifying mark at the WUSV trials - 5 points.