



Guideline for the administration of international events of the WTWU in the field of FCI-Obedience (FCI-OB)

(Status as at 11.03.2023)

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1. General, application and allocation

For reasons of better readability, the simultaneous use of male and female forms of speech is avoided. All personal designations apply to all genders. In addition, the following terms within this guideline have the meaning given here:

- Written:
 - In writing or in text form (e.g. by post, email, fax, etc.).
- Events:
 - International trials and dog sport events in the form of European Championships and World Championships

According to the self-image of the WTWU, the planning and coordination of future events in the field of FCI-OB for terrier breeds (according to FCI Group 3 – Terriers) lies within its responsibility.

Members who want to organize such an event must apply for it in writing to the WTWU executive board at least 1 year in advance, stating the extent of the event (which trial levels).

The World Championships should always be scheduled to take place a few months before the next FCI-OB World Championship to give any competitors who may qualify for this sufficient time for preparation.

In all sporting matters before and during the event, the department manager for obedience is named as the generally responsible person on the part of the WTWU in these regulations. If this function is not occupied, it will be taken over by the performance advisor of the WTWU as the higher authority.

2. Basics for organizing an event in the field of FCI-OB

The basis are the Rules and Guidelines for Obedience trials for classes 1, 2 and 3 of the FCI in the currently valid version. In addition, the implementation provisions of this guideline apply, which should contribute to the uniform procedure.

If necessary, the organizer can pass special competition regulations that contain important information/conditions for participants and guests and must be considered during the event. Particular attention should be paid to veterinary regulations - for example, that no foreign dogs without a vaccination certificate may be brought into the sports venue.

3. Promoter and organizer

The member entrusted with organizing the event is commissioned by the executive board of the WTWU with its organization and performance and bears full responsibility for the smooth running of the event and also all costs for the event.

First of all, agreement must be reached with the department manager for obedience with regard to the venue, the extent of the event and the general conditions.

If there is agreement between the WTWU and the potential organizer, the venue of the upcoming event must be presented in the course of an event after the start numbers has been drawn. It has then to be published on the WTWU homepage in order to inform the group of active dog handlers as early as possible.

During the preparation period, agreements and correspondence are only to be made with an officially designated event manager of the respective nation, who is also (co-)responsible for the implementation in his country, and the department manager for utility dogs of the WTWU.

The amount of the entry fees can be seen in the WTWU scale of fees and expenses as determined by the GMD of the WTWU.

4. Organization

An up-to-date overview of the organizing committee of the organizer with the respective functions and their availability must be published on the WTWU homepage or on the event's own homepage.

A catalog may be provided by the organizer which must include all participants and the schedule. The participants receive catalog numbers, which they also have to wear as shirt numbers. The most important parts of the catalog must be written in at least German and English. If no catalog is created, the aforementioned data must be published on the event's homepage.

The venue is to be decorated with the national flags of the participating countries.

All results must be kept up to date during the event directly after consultation with the respective judge. They are to be affixed in a clearly visible place on site and also to be published online.

5. Judges and supervisors

There should always be judges from different member nations employed. Suggestions can be made by any member association to the department manager for obedience. The executive board of the WTWU decides on the nomination of the judges.

Each judge and steward must have sound experience in judging and acting as steward in FCI-OB and have judged or acted as steward at least one major event with rankings in the last 2 years prior to being assigned to the event. The member association that proposed the judge is responsible for the professional qualification of the judge.

Each judge should at least have a good enough command of the English language to be able to make the evaluation in a way that everyone can understand if necessary. The same applies to the stewards for guiding through the course.

The assumption of costs for the judges and supervisors is regulated in the scale of fees and expenses of the WTWU.

6. Trial secretary

The organizing member association has to provide the judges with a qualified trial secretary (= chief steward) and at least 2 qualified stewards who are fluent in English. The activities of the trial secretary (= chief stewards) include:

- Surveying the competition premises
- Preparation of the course plan in consultation with the judge
- Organization of “white dogs” for group work
- Supporting the judge in the technical handling of the trial
- Prepare and provide the evaluation judges trial sheets for the judges
- Identity check of the dogs immediately before the start
- Coordination of the necessary helpers or stewards

The duties of the stewards include:

- Assistance to the chief steward under his direction
- Adding up the points

7. Sports venue and course of events

A sports field with a well-groomed lawn, a riding arena or a hall with a suitable floor covering should be available for the events. The size of the ring must be at least 20 x 30 m indoors and at least 25 x 40 m outdoors. The boundaries of the ring must be clearly marked (e.g. barrier tape). If the area is used for several competitions, a distance of at least 5 m must be maintained between the individual rings.

All equipment, starting points and other necessary floor markings must be marked before the start of the competition in the presence of the respective judge and the stewards employed.

The site should have a covered grandstand or a comparable possibility to protect against the weather. There should also be enough parking space for participants and visitors. A possibility for catering for the starters and visitors as well as sanitary facilities must also be available.

Before the start of the event, all dogs must be checked by a veterinarian. Dogs that are ill or suspected of being infected are excluded from participation. Aggressive dogs are also not allowed to start, although this final evaluation can only be made by consulting a judge. Females in heat may participate but must start at the end and until then be kept separate from the other participating dogs.

On the day before the event, the participants must be given time to train on the sports grounds and a schedule must be drawn up for this. Females in heat may only complete a training session before their start at the end of the event.

A corresponding timetable is to be drawn up, from which the starters can see their demonstration time.

During the demonstrations and at the closing ceremony, the issued catalog numbers must be worn visibly.

All instructions and commands during the event are to be given by the trial secretary in the national language of the organizer or in English (depending on the respective starter).

The possession, sale and use of unauthorized equipment on the venue and in the vicinity of it, any other manipulation of the dog or doping (see "International Guidelines about Dog Doping" of the FCI) leads to immediate disqualification. Such a violation must be documented in writing and witnessed, unless the disqualification is made by the judge.

8. Obedience practice

Before the beginning of the competitions of the event, an obedience practice is to be scheduled in the presence of the respective judge and the dog handlers. For this purpose, the organizer must provide at least one dog handler for each FCI-OB trial level carried out at the event, who may not be a participant.

During these demonstrations, among other things, special requirements or regulations of the respective country should be discussed and regulated. The desired process should be clear to the participants.

9. Number drawing

If possible, on the evening before the event, the public drawing of the starting order and the unambiguous assignment to the catalog numbers should take place. The lots will be drawn in catalog number order, with the organizing country's participants being the last to get their lots.

10. Team leadership, team leader meeting

Each nation has to nominate a team leader as the contact person for the event management during the event. The team leader has to be named by the registration deadline at the latest with name, telephone number and e-mail from the respective participating country.

Meetings should be scheduled for coordination purposes. On the occasion of each event, a team leader meeting is generally scheduled one day before the beginning of the competitions, in which the team leaders, the judges, the stewards, the trial secretaries, the event management and the department manager for obedience should take part. The time must be announced duly.

11. Classification and title

The participant with the highest total number of points within a class is the winner. Only in the highest trial level is a title awarded as follows: "WTWU FCI-OB 3 [Title e.g. World Champion, European Champion] 20xx [year]".

In the event of a tie, the highest total number of points from the sum of the exercises counts as follows:

- **Class 1:** 1.2 (Heelwork) + 1.4 (Recall) + 1.5 (Send away) + 1.9 (General impression)
- **Class 2:** 2.2 (Heelwork) + 2.4 (Recall) + 2.5 (Send away) + 2.10 (General impression)
- **Class 3:** 3.3 (Heelwork) + 3.5 (Recall) + 3.6 (Send away).

If in class 3 two or more dogs have reached the same total number of points, these three exercises mentioned above are to be repeated in order to achieve a ranking. In classes 1 and 2, the higher general impression decides if the calculated total number of points delivers the same result. If this does not determine the order, then the exercises mentioned above are repeated. However, the new results may not be considered as the result for this event nor entered in the scorebooks as an official result.

A team evaluation only takes place in the highest trial level. The three highest total individual participant results of each nation that have passed the trial positively will be used to place the teams. In the event of a tie, the procedure is analogous to the individual ranking based on the total points of the starters of a nation in each of the exercises mentioned above. Only in the highest trial level the winning team will be awarded a title as follows: "WTWU FCI-OB 3 team [title eg. World Champion, European Champion] 20xx [year]".

All results are to be entered accordingly in the scorebook of each participant. The event is called "WTWU FCI-OB [class eg. OB 3] [event eg. World Championship, European Championship]".

At the closing ceremony, the ranking of the individual results takes place first, only then the team results.

12. Prizes

In addition to the prizes for ranking 1 to 3 in the individual and team rankings, only the following honorary prizes are to be provided:

- Best Team-Harmony

This honorary prize may also be awarded to participants who have passed the overall trial with "without evaluation".

Each participant should receive a small starter prize (commemorative prize).

13. Conditions of participations

Dog handlers with terriers who are members of a WTWU member association are eligible to participate.

Dog handlers from non-member countries of the WTWU can be granted the right to participate in the event as "guest starters" if they apply timely before the end of the registration deadline and if they receive approval from the WTWU executive board. For guest starters there is a separate guest rating with ranking. Titles are only awarded to starters from WTWU member associations.

Each country is allowed to send a maximum of 5 starters. If the event is held in all trial levels, the maximum permitted number of participants per country is to be filled first with FCI-OB 3 starters, second with FCI-OB 2 starters and finally with FCI-OB 1 starters from this country. If the maximum number of 5

starters from one and the same country is registered in the same trial level, 1 substitute starter may be sent to this trial level for this country.

Only one dog may be presented per starter in the same trial level at an event. A dog handler may only take part in one event with the same dog. A two-day exam counts as one exam session. A dog handler may enter a maximum of two dogs for an examination at an event. A dog may only acquire one title within an event.

A participant can only start for the country in which he has his permanent residence.

FCI-approved pedigrees must be presented for the dogs registered. Dogs registered in the appendix of the stud book of a member of the FCI and those registered in the stud book of an organization that is not a member of the FCI but with which the FCI is linked by a contractual agreement of mutual recognition of stud books, are also eligible. Just like neutered dogs.

Each participant must present a valid scorebook, which must be issued by the national organization for which the participant is starting.

The registration with a given registration form has to be made collectively for all starters of a country by the team leader to the event management.

Each participant must prove at least one successfully passed trial in the FCI-OB class for which he is registering. The qualification period begins on the first day after an event and ends with the registration deadline for the next event. However, the exam must not have been older than 18 months (from the 1st day of the event) and had to be passed in the country for which the participant is starting. It is up to each member country to supplement and/or tighten these requirements.

If there are several member associations in one and the same country, then the primary responsibility for creating the qualification modalities lies with the pedigree dog kennel club for terriers that was the first to become a member of the WTWU. However, this association is free to assign this right - even partially - to another member association within the same country.

The reigning winner of the FCI-OB 3 of an event is automatically entitled to start with the same dog in the immediately following year as the defending champion. He is not included in the total number of starters for his country but starts additionally if he is registered by his member association.

Registration deadline is generally 6 weeks before the event date. Entry forms not received by then will not be considered. The event management must confirm the receipt of the entry forms to the team leader.

14. Objection

The decision of the judges is final and incontestable. An objection can only be raised due to violations of the specifications of the current International Utility Dogs Regulation of the FCI. It must be submitted to the event manager by the team leader. A deposit must be paid in advance, the amount of which is regulated in the WTWU scale of fees and expenses.

The final decision on the objection is made, led by the chairman of the WTWU (in his absence by the department manager for obedience), by all trial judges of the class concerned and the trial secretary.

15. Insurance

The organizer must provide adequate insurance cover for the judges, trial secretaries, supervisors, helpers, employees and visitors.

The owner of the dog is liable for damage caused by his dog with his liability insurance, the existence of which a participant must prove in the course of the registration.

16. Miscellaneous

The executive board and the department manager for Obendience of the WTWU are to be invited to the event. The relevant assumption of costs is regulated in the scale of fees and expenses of the WTWU.

17. Changes

Changes/supplements to these guidelines are made by the executive board of the WTWU and require the approval of the GMD of the WTWU. They must be timed in such a way that there is no adverse impact on the ongoing qualifications for an event. They will be sent to all member organizations in a circular letter and published on the WTWU homepage.