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Specifications for the Organization of the FMBB IHT TS World Championship

For the organization of the FMBB World Championships

1. General Provisions

- a. The WC Belgian Shepherd organizing country will uphold following regulations. In cases of doubt or possible exceptions, always contact the FMBB IHT TS commission or the FMBB Board.
- b. The FMBB IHT TS trials have to be held under the International IHT TS rules of the FCI.

2. Composition

- a. The FMBB IHT TS World Championship exits in three parts.
- b. The FMBB IHT TS World Championship (category 3).
- c. This category with CACITR title awarding.
- d. The FMBB IHT TS World Winner category 1.
- e. The FMBB IHT TS World Winner category 2.

3. Competitors

- a. Competitors have to have the qualification for the class they have entered.
- b. A handler can compete with the maximum number of two dogs.
- c. The maximum number of competitors per country is 5 with a maximum of 2 competitors in category 3 + one reserve.
- d. The number of the competitors per country can be larger, it depends on the number of participating countries. It is determined by the organizer after the application deadline period. The organizer must inform the person in charge from the applying country about it as soon as possible.
- e. The maximum dogs competing per day is if only one class is organized in one day 20 for class 1, 18 for class 2 and 16 for class 3. For combination of class 2 and 1 in one day it is recommended 10 for class 2 and 10 for class 1.

4. Judges, Stewards and helpers

- a. Two judges with the qualification to judge international trials have to be invited. At least one of the judges should be of another country than the organizing country. One of the judges will be announced as the main judge.
- b. Two secretaries have to be present to assist each judge during the entire competition.
- c. Sufficient number of helpers and helper dogs with appropriate herding skills for preparing and changing the flocks have to be present each day of the trial.
- d. Judges, secretaries and stock helpers should be able to speak English (main language of FMBB).
- e. All other helpers as for example traffic exercise driver for category 3, or helpers to build the trial course have to be organized by the organization.
- f. The two judges must agree on the trial course and obstacles set up at least one month before the competition and send it by e-mail to the organizer, so that the organizer is able to prepare all necessary material to build the trial course properly.

5. Competition field

- a. The competition field must be outdoor of appropriate size, properly fenced and in such condition that it will be safe for handler, dog and sheep.
- b. All general requirements must be in accordance to the General Conditions of FCI International Herding Event and FCI IHT TS rules. In addition there should be enough space to prepare the dog without disturbance by spectators or e.g. free running dogs

6. Equipment

- a. All equipment have to be in accordance with the FCI rules.
- b. Sufficient equipment for all classes has to be available.
- c. Sufficient amount and good quality material has to be available to build the trial course according the judges set up.
- d. A field with natural obstacles which can be used in the trial course is preferred.
- e. The grazing area borders should be preferably marked by natural material, cut grass or plough line.
- f. Safe marking of the sheep for the catch exercise must be available (ex. animal spray marker, sheep collar)
- g. A save vehicle or other solution to execute the traffic exercise must be agreed with the judge prior to the trial and secured by the organizer.
- h. All equipment and material used at the trial course must be safe for the sheep, dogs and handlers.

7. Sheep

- a. The flock of sheep must be of such condition and number to sustain a good quality welfare during the entire competition.
- b. All specifications concerning the sheep must be in accordance with the FCI rules.
- c. Flocks as large as possible for each run are highly recommended to be used to allow the dogs to perform their natural working style. The minimum number of sheep in flock must be in accordance with the FCI rules.
- d. Pens for sheep waiting or resting must be arranged in a way that eye contact is not possible between the resting sheep and the sheep as the trial course.

- e. It is recommended to build such a number of sorting pens, that it is not necessary to select new flock after each run, but there are about 5 to 10 flocks sorted out and ready. This is to secure fluent progress of the trial and spare sheep from unnecessary stress.

8. Performance of competition

- a. All start numbers have to be drawn by lottery. Competitors with two dogs are to be considered if both dogs are in the same class.
- b. The competition is to be held in the following way
 - Thursday: class 1 first round, class 2 first round
 - Friday: class 3 first round
 - Saturday: class 1 second round, class 2 second round
 - Sunday: class 3 second round
 - Each trial will start by trial briefing for the competitors with the judges. The main judge will explain the expected execution of each exercise of the trial course.
 - For two days before the competition (Tuesday, Wednesday) the training for all competitors will be held.
 - All together 6 days is needed for IHT TS trainings and competitions.
- c. Individual competition
 - The best 3 competitors in each class have to be awarded. The total points of both rounds awarded by both judges make the teams final score. Dogs receiving evaluation NPA and DISC will not receive any points. Dogs receiving RET evaluation will keep the points collected until they stop their run. In class 3 they are getting FMBB medals, the lower classes are getting awards from the organizer.
- d. Team Competition
- e. The total average points result in category 3 per country makes the result for the team competition.

9. Trials and Training

- a. The plan of the trial course have to be published two weeks before the competition at the organizers homepage and have to be sent at the same time by e-mail to the team leaders. It is highly recommended to publish also the used equipment.
- b. Training has to be organized for all competitors. 15 minutes per competitor is recommended. All trainings for all classes has to be held on the days before the first competition day.
- c. The equipment used in the trial is recommended to be prepared for the training; The trial course set up of the competition shouldn't be built for the training to prevent the sheep to get used to the trial exercise with an exception of grazing and feeding area. Pen of proper size, gate, bridge and grazing area should be available for the training.

10. Time table

- a. Appropriate schedule for training and veterinary control has to be drafted.
- b. An appropriate timetable has to be drafted, taking into account the number of participants in the different categories.
- c. A time and room has to be provided for the drawing and briefing, team leader meeting, judges meeting and IHT TS committee meeting.

11. Insurance

- a. The organizer must have an insurance policy with sufficient cover for personnel, the track supervisor, trial judges, helpers and assistant dogs.
- b. Each competitor shall compensate the cost of any damage caused by his dog. Each competitor must provide proof with his registration application of holding a public liability insurance policy for consequences resulting from being a dog owner.
- c. The owner of the dog is responsible for any damage or injury caused by him or his dog.

12. FMBB IHT TS committee - Purpose of the committee

- a. Assisting in the organization of the FMBB world championships IHT TS.
- b. Decide upon issues that may cause several interpretations with regard to regulations.
- c. Brief judges.
- d. Communication with the next organizing committees and the FMBB Board.

13. Competitors of AKC or CKC

Based on the letter of understanding between FCI and AKC and between FCI and CKC the dogs of AKC or CKC can participate at FMBB IHT TS. The following requirements must be fulfilled by applying teams to be allowed to participate at FCI IHT TS trials of FMBB IHT TS.

To participate at FCI level:	CKC dog needs to fulfil:
IHT1 TS	H.S. or S.D.S. title + T.D.S. one leg qualifying score as minimum
IHT2 TS	H.I. or S.D.I. title + T.D.S. (or T.D.I.) one leg qualifying score as minimum
IHT3 TS	H.A. or S.D.A. title + T.D.S. (or T.D.I. or T.D.A.) one leg qualifying score as minimum

To participate at FCI level:	AKC dog needs to fulfil:
IHT1 TS	Course A or D HS started level title + Course C started level one leg qualifying score as minimum
IHT2 TS	Course A or D HI intermediate level title + Course C started level (or intermediate) one leg qualifying score as minimum
IHT3 TS	Course A or D HX advanced level title + Course C started level (or intermediate or advanced level) one leg qualifying score as minimum

To fulfil the required level an AKC dog can complete CKC titles and vice versa as per following table of equivalents:

CKC	is can be replaced by and vice versa	AKC
H.S. or S.D.S. title	=	Course A or D HS started level title
H.I. or S.D.I. title	=	Course A or D HI intermediate level title
H.A. or S.D.A. title	=	Course A or D HX advanced level title
T.D.S.	=	Course C started level
T.D.I.	=	Course C intermediate level
T.D.A.	=	Course C advanced level