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Specifications Obedience

For the organization of the FMBB World Championships Obedience

1. General Provisions

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

2. Composition

- a. The FMBB Obedience World Championship exists in three parts:
 - The FMBB Obedience World Championships (class 3).
 - The FMBB Obedience World Winner class 1.
 - The FMBB Obedience World Winner class 2.

3. Competitors

- a. Competitors have to have the qualification for the class they are entering.
- b. A handler can compete with the maximum number of two dogs.
- c. A handler or a dog cannot compete in other disciplines at the World Championship (except exposition).
- d. The maximum number of competitors per country is 12 with a maximum of 6 competitors in category 3.

4. Judges and stewards and helpers

- a. Two judges with the qualification to judge internationally have to be invited. At least one of the judges should be from another country than the organizing country.
- b. Minimum one chief steward has to be invited, two stewards are recommended, but obligatory are one chief steward and one experienced helper. The ring stewards have to be experienced in performing international or qualification competitions. All commands have to be given in English.
- c. Judges and ring stewards should be able to speak English (main language of FMBB). All other helpers have to be organized by the organization, ring helpers in agreement with the Chief Steward.
- d. If the number of competitors is more than 25 in one class, more judges and ring stewards must be invited. In this case general regulations have to be followed (8 Judges and Helpers).

5. Competition field

- a. The competition ground has to be sand, grass or artificial grass if outside, an acceptable floor, sand or artificial grass, if it will be held indoors. The ground should be flat and in such condition that there will be no danger for handler or dog.
- b. The minimum size of the ring is written in the FCI rules. In addition there should be enough space to prepare the dog without disturbance by spectators or e.g. free running dogs
- c. The qualifications should take place in one ring. The exercises may be divided into 2 rings only if there are more than 25 competitors entered in one or more classes.
- d. The finals take place in 1 ring only.
- e. The competition field has to be measured, prepared and marked exactly.

6. Equipment

- a. All equipment has to fit the FCI rules.
- b. Sufficient equipment for all classes has to be available. The wooden sticks for the scent discrimination exercise must be new for each competitor. Dumbbells provided by the organization should be new and have to be available in three sizes, however, and following FCI rules, competitors can use their own dumbbells if they choose to do so.
- c. The equipment has to be organized by the Chief Steward and has to be approved by the FMBB Obedience Commission.
- d. If a second ring is needed, enough equipment has to be available.

7. 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:
 - Each class is held over two days.
 - First day all competitors are doing one trial, second day is held as a final with the maximum of 20 starters. If there are less than 20 starters, all starters in this class are competing two times despite the result of the first trial.
 - The lower classes (1 and 2) are held on the same day, the highest class (3) on another day, so 4 days are needed for the Obedience competition.
- c. Individual competition
 - To find out a ranking, points out of both trials have to be added. The best 3 competitors in each class have to be awarded. In class 3 they are getting FMBB medals, the lower classes are getting awards from the organizer.

- d. Team competition
 - The total points from the best three in class 3 per country makes the result for the team competition.
- e. Final Competition
 - At least the final Class 3 competition must be judged by two judges simultaneously, but preferably this should be the case in all classes

8. Trials and training

- a. The plan of the ring, the heelwork and the order of exercises for the first day of completion 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 also publish the used equipment.
- b. The plan, heelwork and order for the finals have to be published after the first day competition.
- c. Training has to be organized for all competitors. 5 minutes per competitor are recommended. All trainings have to be held on Wednesday, before the competition of any class starts.
- d. The equipment used in the competition has to be prepared; also the ring has to be prepared for the class.
- e. The Chief Steward must ensure the terrain plans are communicated directly and only to the invited judges. The invited judges are also responsible for approving all terrain plans for the competition.

9. Time table

- a. Wednesday
 - Veterinary control
 - Training for all classes.
- b. Competition
 - Thursday: Class 1 & Class 2
 - Friday: Class 3
 - Saturday: Final Class 1 and Class 2
 - Sunday: Final Class 3
- c. Office
 - A time and room has to be provided for the drawing and briefing, team leader meeting, judges meeting and Obedience committee meeting.

10. FMBB Obedience committee - Purpose of the committee

- a. Assisting in the organization of the FMBB world championships Obedience.
- 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.