

# FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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## FCI REGULATIONS FOR RESCUE DOG JUDGES

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**NB: Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders and numbers.**

## **1. GENERAL**

The regulations set forth in the paragraphs 1 through 8 are compulsory for all FCI National organizations and must be considered as Minimum requirements of the FCI for any individual to be accepted as Rescue dog judge by his National Canine Organization, being member of the FCI (hereafter named "FCI National Organization", shortly "FCI-NO"). It is up to each FCI-NO to increase and specify the general requirement set by the FCI. However, under no circumstances, may the rules of each country be in conflict with these FCI regulations.

## **2. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS REGARDING APPLICATION, EDUCATION, EXAMINATION AND NOMINATION AS RESCUE DOG JUDGE.**

- The applications of the candidates wishing to become Rescue Dog judge must be accepted under the official FCI-NO regulations of the permanent country of residence of the applicant. It is the responsibility of each FCI-NO to provide adequate courses for its candidates to get the necessary education, to prepare the examinations and to take care of their official approval as Rescue Dog judge.
- The FCI-NO must provide a satisfactory basic judges training programme in order to educate the trainee on the subjects mentioned in paragraph 2. Such training programme must be on offer for the student-judges on a regular basis.  
The same programme should be attended by the judges wishing to confirm their knowledge after a long absence from judging as well for judges in another working discipline wishing to apply to become a Rescue Dog judge.
- Such programme should be attended by the candidates before they are required to take the written examination.
- In order to be recognized by the FCI as international Rescue Dog judge, the candidate applying must comply with the following requirements:
  - a. Age: legally responsible allowed
  - b. At the time of application to become a trainee, the applicant must prove that he has previously been a dog handler with a minimum of two rescue dogs trained and passed to the highest level (level B) in at least two disciplines in accordance with the International Testing Standards which have to be proved by the entry of a copy of the score book and that he has achieved successful results as a Rescue Dog handler for at least 5 years.
  - c. The candidate must be examined by the official examination committee nominated by his FCI-NO and take a written preliminary examination showing sufficient knowledge on the following subjects:
    1. Anatomy, morphology and movement (dynamics) of dogs
    2. Knowledge of dogs behaviour
    3. Behaviour, principles and techniques of judging

4. National Rescue dogs regulations and other additional national rules
5. FCI Rescue Dogs regulations, these FCI rules for Rescue Dogs judges and other additional rules

The candidate must "pass" the written examination in total.

- e. Complete rule knowledge is one of the most important factors in judging and a qualified judge must be thoroughly conversant with the FCI Rescue Dogs rules in order to make decisions based upon knowledge of the phase being judged.

The practical training must allow the trainee to gain a complete knowledge and understanding of all regulations, as well as procedure on the field. The practical training consists of the successful completion of a number of trails where the candidate receives education, subject to having passed the written examination. It is the responsibility of the FCI-NO to establish a period of time and the amount of practical training.

- f. The practical education must be taken under the supervision of FCI recognised and well-experienced Rescue Dogs judges. The candidate has to write reports on the dogs he judged during the education and forward them to the judge who has the responsibility of confirming the aspirant judge's knowledge, and his performance and behaviour to the official committee in charge. After successful completion of the practical education, the aspirant has to take a practical test supervised by the official examination-committee. This examination-committee has to provide a written statement about the test and its results.

- g. Once approved by his FCI-NO and included in its Rescue Dog judges list, a candidate first has to judge in his permanent country of residence over a period determined by its FCI-NO before he is allowed to accept judging at FCI trails with CACIT outside his permanent country of residence.

It is the responsibility of each FCI-NO as member of the FCI to include in their official list of judges of the FCI only those individuals who have fulfilled the requirement stated above, to keep their list as well as all the information about every judge updated and to forward it to the FCI Office and a copy to the Secretary of the Rescue Dogs Commission every year before the annual FCI Rescue Dogs Commission in February. This list must indicate clearly that the judge is licensed to give the CACIT.

A judge- or candidate judge- who has been living in a country different from his original country of residence for more than three years- is obliged to take further education and to get his approval in the country where he lives at present.

### 3. DEFINITION OF RESCUE DOG JUDGES WITHIN THE FCI

A Rescue Dog judge of a FCI-NO can be:

- a) a FCI National Rescue Dog Judge
- b) a FCI International Rescue Dog Judge

The FCI-NO has to forward to the FCI complete information concerning every judge who is permitted to judge outside his permanent country of residence.

a) **A FCI NATIONAL RESCUE DOG JUDGE** is a person who has been approved by his own FCI-NO to judge.

b) **A FCI INTERNATIONAL RESCUE DOG JUDGE** is a person who has been approved by his FCI-NO to judge at the FCI official trails according to the International Regulations for Rescue Dogs. Each FCI-NO is responsible for the ongoing training of his judges either through seminars or annual meetings.

c) For the nomination of an aspirant to become a FCI International Rescue Dog Judge has to be entirely under the jurisdiction of the concerned FCI-NO, paying particular attention to the qualifications of the judge in question.

d) The FCI Rescue Dogs Commission will organize, as needed, seminars for FCI International Rescue Dog Judges, national FCI-NO Judges and FCI-NO Judge Candidates.

### 4. GENERAL CONDITIONS OR ADMISSION AS A RESCUE DOG JUDGE

Only those Judges who are included in the list of Rescue Dog Judges of any FCI-NO in accordance with previous conditions are allowed to award a CACIT at internationals trails.

- Judges who have been approved by their FCI-NO but have not been judging for a period of 5 years or longer must take a new practical test before being allowed to judge again. The FCI-NO, before granting a new authorization to judge, must verify the capacity of the applicant to judge the rescue dogs, he had previously been authorised to judge.
- Judges emigrating from one country whose NO is member of FCI to another one remain admitted and should be approved by the FCI-NO of the new country for the Rescue dogs they had been licensed by their former FCI-NO, provided that no disciplinary action is or has been taken against them. An application must be sent by these Judges to the new country within a maximum period of 3 years after changing residence. This FCI-NO will then be responsible for these judges.

## 5. GENERAL DUTIES OF A RESCUE DOG JUDGE

At trails in countries whose NO is a member of the FCI, Rescue Dog judges must always follow the valid FCI rulebook for the trail they are judging, as long as these are not in conflict with national law. They may not interpret any rule in such a manner to be in conflict with the functional health of a dog.

When judging, any rescue dog judge has to obey strictly these judges' regulations as well as the FCI Rescue Dogs regulations and all other FCI rules.

The judges have to prepare for each trail by studying the rules and all other important regulations.

Judges must be thorough and careful in their work, obey the conventional rules of ethics and respect their judging colleagues.

## 6. TRAVEL AND INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

### a. Travel arrangements

All normal travel expenses to include real mileage (reimbursement to be decided by the FCI General Committee, a minimum of 0,35 EUR/Km, parking, train, bus, taxi, flight (a reasonable price for an "economy class" ticket including a cancellation insurance-if possible-and an option for changeability), as well as meals during travel to the trail, incurred by a judge have to be reimbursed immediately on arrival or following whatever previous arrangements made with the organizer.

For judging at a FCI Rescue Dog World Championship or another international Rescue Dog Competition, a judge is allowed to change, in addition to the above-mentioned costs and to cover his small expenses, a "daily-fee" according to the FCI regulations. (35 EUR for each travel day and 50 EUR for each judging day).

Judges are free to make private arrangements with trails organizations, which may differ from those stated above. However, when such personal arrangements have not been made, they should expect to be provided with the benefits given by these regulations.

It is advisable that financial arrangements should be laid out in advance in the form of a contract or written agreement between the judge and the trail organization and should be honoured by both parties.

### b. Insurance

The judges should sign up an insurance contracts (flight cancellation, accidents, etc) whenever he is invited to judge abroad. Considering the high number of different possibilities offered in the member countries, the judges is recommended to act as follow:

- The judge who frequently officiates abroad should sign up this insurance contract for the whole year.
- The judge who seldom judges abroad should sign up this insurance contract on a trail-per-trail basis.

## **7. BEHAVIOUR**

### **1. General**

Every Rescue Dog judge of any FCI member organization accomplishes an important duty in the international dog society. His behaviour should therefore be reliable and reproachless whether officiating or in his private life.

Consequently:

- A judge should never be late for his judging appointments or leave the trail ground before he has completely fulfilled the duties that were assigned to him.
- A judge should not criticise the work of another judge in public.
- On the field a judge must behave properly and examine all dogs indiscriminately. He should be soberly and properly dressed, in accordance with the duty to be fulfilled, and should always be correct and urbane.
- A judge cannot smoke on the field.
- A judge cannot drink alcohol on the field.
- A judge cannot use a mobile phone while judging.
- A judge can neither enter a dog nor handle a dog at a trail where he is officiating as a judge.

### **2. Accepting Assignments**

- a. A FCI Rescue Dog Judge can only judge at FCI trails organized by FCI-NOs. He is not allowed to judge at events not recognised by the FCI unless those events are held by countries which do not come under the FCI jurisdiction (else than member or contract partner). However, in this case, he must get the authorization from the FCI-NO of his permanent country of residence.
- b. Upon receiving an invitation to judge in a country outside his permanent country of residence, a judge has to make all necessary inquiries to ascertain that the trial organization come under the jurisdiction of the FCI or is organized by an organization recognised by FCI.
- c. If the trail is organized by a club, the judge must verify that this club is officially recognized by the FCI-NO of the country where the trail is being held.
- d. When judging outside his permanent country of residence, a judge must be fluent in at least one of the four languages of the FCI: English, French, German or Spanish.
- e. All the judges, including those from countries that are not members of the FCI, must under all circumstances follow the FCI rules when they are officiating at FCI sanctioned trails.
- f. It is absolutely forbidden for a judge to charge a double reimbursement for any expenses related to a judging assignment. If a judge is found to have claimed a double reimbursement, he will be severely punished by his FCI-NO.

### **3. Permissions for judges**

FCI Rescue Dog judges must have a written permission, issued by their respective canine organization in order to judge at FCI trails. While on assignment, they are obliged to judge strictly and exclusively in accordance with the FCI rules that are currently valid.

## **8. PENALTIES**

1. Any Rescue Dog judge violating, in any way, the FCI Rescue Dog regulations and/or the national ones as well as the FCI regulations for Rescue Dog judges falls under the jurisdiction of his FCI-NO, which has to penalize the judge in question if the violation has been proved. The FCI-NO are obliged to pass a rule which enforces them to penalize any misconduct or any violation from their judges.
2. It must be guaranteed that the judge in question shall be heard, either verbally or in writing. The judge must be given the right to appeal against the decision. No person having been involved in imposing the penalty may be a member of the authority where the appeal is made.
3. The FCI-NO should foresee the following penalty options:
  - a) Settle the case without penalization
  - b) Issue a warning with or without threatening to ban the judge from judging
  - c) Banning the person to judge for a certain period of time
  - d) Cancellation as a judge
  - e) Refusal or withdrawal of the permission(s) to judge abroad
4. After becoming legally effective, the FCI has to be informed about the decision by its FCI-NO.

## **9. ENFORCEMENT DISPOSITIONS**

The Executive Committee of the FCI, especially when parts of these regulations become invalid, may, on its own final decision, take action on changing parts of these regulations in order to ensure the validity of any international event held under FCI rules and to enforce the application of these regulations.

The invalidity of one part or parts of these regulations does not force the whole regulations to become invalid.

**The English text is the authentic document.**

**These regulations were approved by the FCI General Committee in April 2019. They become effective from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**