



**International Federation Of Rottweilerfriends  
Internationale Föderation der Rottweilerfreunde  
Federación Internacional De Amigos Del Rottweiler**

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# IFR-World Championship for Tracking Dogs

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## Regulations

### **1. The Organizing IFR Member club.**

The organization of the annual “IFR World Championship for Tracking Dogs” or in short “the World Championship” will be entrusted by the IFR Meeting of Delegates to a full Member club of the IFR.

If necessary in between two “Meeting of Delegates” because of a not or not timely existence of such decision or because the Member club to whom the organization was entrusted states to be no longer willing or in the means to organize the event, the allocation of the organization will be decided upon by the IFR-Board.

Should for a certain year no Member Club be found available to organize the World Championship, then the organization will be postponed until the following year.

The World Championship is to be an official trial for which permission by the national kennel club of the organizing club is to be obtained. All results will be noted in the scorebooks of the participants.

All costs, revenues and all responsibilities of whatever nature concerning the organization of the World Championship are for the organizing club. The IFR will give a limited sponsorship for the price-table within it means.

All communications will happen by e-mail.

### **2. Trial Regulations.**

The World Championship will be organized according to FCI-regulations IFH 1 and IFH 2 and IGP FH as in force on the date of the trial.

Competition will be offered at least at both levels IFH 1 and IFH 2 with the option for the organizing Memberclub to also offer competition in IGP FH.

As far as the present regulations should not offer an answer to a question, an ad hoc solution will be sought for with the FCI regulations of its World Championship for tracking dogs as a guidance.



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### **3. Dates.**

The World Championship will be organized at dates - to be proposed by the organizing club and approved by the IFR Board - that do not coincide with the dates of the IFR IPO World Championship, unless both annual events are organized by the same club and in which case the dates of both events may (but must not) coincide or sequentially follow.

The number of the actual trial days will be determined according to the number of entries but the organizing club will reserve 3 days to be on the safe side. The concrete dates will be published within eight days after the period to register participants has expired.

### **4. Invitations to participate.**

The organizing club will send an invitation to all member-clubs of the IFR to participate the World Championship and to enter their participants, at the very latest by 31 december of the year prior to the organization of the event.

The invitation will clearly mention all modalities and conditions of registration so all misunderstanding is excluded.

It will in particular mention the date before which participants must be registered. This date must allow a period to register of at least 3 and max. 5 months. Entries that are not received before this date can be refused without means of appeal.

The invitation will mention eventual specific demands such as: obligatory liability insurance, national legislation on keeping and handling dogs (example: obligatory wear of a muzzle), etc.

In sending out information to participants and/or spectators, the organizing club will do its best to help finding suitable accommodation.

The organizing club undertakes to keep the IFR-member clubs and especially all registered participants up to date on all information that concerns the World Championship and will do this by regular e-mails, incl. information (also photo's) of the tracking fields, the objects, the track-layers, etc.

Although not obligatory, the publication of a website on the World Championship to keep all participants and interested Rottweiler friends informed, is to be applauded.

### **5. The competitors.**

5.1. Competitors are to be entered by the Delegate of the IFR Member clubs or by the teamleader if a teamleader is appointed by the Member Club. Once registered, all further communications will be sent by email to the participants themselves and at the same



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time to all known teamleaders. To avoid all misunderstandings, if no teamleader is appointed, all communications will be send in cc to the Delegate of the Member Club concerned.

Registration of the participants will preferably be organized by digital (online) means.

Each member-club can enter maximal one (1) participant (= person + dog). Additionally however, the participants that were awarded the first place in the FH I and FH II or possibly IGP FH competition of the last World Championship can also be entered to compete at the following World Championship. However, art 5.6 is valid for them too.

Each member-club can also register one reserve participant (at the same level as the participant : IFH 1 or IFH 2 or IGP FH). The reserve participants will be mentioned in the catalogue. Should one of the effective participants be unable to participate, then only the participants entered as reserves will be allowed to replace him.

5.2. A person can only handle one dog at the event and no handler can ever compete for more than one country.

5.3. The criteria to select the competitors are to be decided upon by the member-clubs themselves. However, only members of IFR-member-clubs can participate and only if they have the nationality of the member-club concerned and have their normal residence in that country.

5.4 Only dogs registered with the studbooks or the appendix to the studbooks of an FCI member organisation or contract partner as well as those registered with the studbooks or appendix to the studbooks of a non FCI member organisation with which the FCI has entered into a cooperation agreement of mutual recognition of studbooks (AKC, KC, CKC) can be entered.

They must, at the moment of entry, comply to the conditions imposed by the FCI for the participation in respectively IFI I or IFH II. However to compete in IFH II, the dog must at the moment of entry (meaning the moment that the team-leaders enter the participants for participation, not the moment they register their presences at the event) already have achieved that level.

Castrated bitches and male dogs can be admitted if proof of original intactness is furnished by way of a veterinary certificate.

5.5. The amount of inscription-fee will be determined by the organizing club. However, the board of the IFR can decide on maximum-amounts.

5.6.



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#### 5.6.1

No more than 36 participants can be entered for each level of IFH 1 and IFH 2 (12 dogs / day per judge – max. 3 days). Once that number of 36 competitors is reached, entries will be closed even if the period for registration has not yet expired. The date and order of receiving the entries is decisive. No complaints about a possible exclusion of the competition because of registering after the before mentioned maximum was reached will be accepted.

To avoid all discussion about date and subsequence of registrations, it is highly recommended that the organizing club would immediately confirm, communicate and/or publish all entries by e-mail and/or by publication on the website on the event, incl. the date of registration.

If less than 36 participants are registered for the competition then the organizing club may (but must not) decide to allow participation by those entered as reserves to complete the participation till the maximum of 36 participants. In case the total of entered competitors and the number of registered reserve dogs is higher than the maximum of 36 would allow, than a draw will be organized by the IFR-Board to decide on the reserves who will be allowed to participate and who will not be allowed to participate. These decisions and the possible draw and its results must be made, communicated and published within eight days of closure of entries. In case the total of entered competitors and the number of registered reserve dogs is less than the maximum of 36 would allow, than the participants that obtained the second and if possible also the third place at the last World Championship will be offered a wild card, if they are not already entered.

#### 5.6.2

If competition at the IGP FH level is offered, meaning that each dog will track two tracks on separate days at level IFH 2, then this competition will be judged by 2 judges who will each judge one of the tracks of each competitor and in that case no more than 36 dogs can be entered at this level (12 dogs / day per judge).

5.7 Receiving and registering the entries of participants is done by the organizing club, not the IFR-Board.

5.8 Participants shall at all times show behaviour of true sportsmanship. They will participate the event in sportive clothing, free of attributes that might work as stimuli.

Within the sphere of the World Championship and this at all times and locations (incl. training grounds, parking lots, hotels, etc. ...), all sales and/or use of E-devices or other devices such as spiked collars and in general all treatment of the dog that goes against animal rights and/or the high standard of sportsmanship that is to be expected during a



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World Championship, shall lead to disqualification, regardless of the legal situation in the organising country.

All participants and all concerned with the organization of the event and/or its course are advised that unsporting behaviour at the IFR-World Championship, including exclamations or publications at the event and even prior or after the trial and in whatever form, that are insulting for the IFR, the judges, the organization and/or other participants can be punished. In case of such a complaint or in case the IFR-Board gains knowledge of such behaviour and/or exclamations and/or publications itself, the IFR-Board will be entitled to investigate and – with respect for the rights of defence of those concerned - to penalize the wrongful acts as the Board sees fit. This includes the possibility to refuse participation by those concerned to all future IFR-events, the publication of such decision and informing the concerned national kennel clubs and/or Rottweilerclubs and/or the FCI of the facts and the Board's findings.

## **6. Catalogue.**

The organizing club will see to it that a catalogue will be available in which all participants and reserve participants will be mentioned: name and address of the handler of the dog, name and address of the owner of the dog if not the same person as the handler, the name, birthdate, pedigree, tattoo or microchip-number and the name of the father and mother of the dog. If teamleaders are appointed, they will also be mentioned in the catalogue.

All participants will receive a catalogue for free. The organizing club is free to sell the catalogue to all others and will see to it that they are available in sufficient numbers.

The catalogue will also mention the program of the whole event, incl. the time schedule for the trial and a table for the scores, the names of the judges, trial director, track director, track layers and trial-secretary.

The organizing club is free to publish free or paid publicity in the catalogue as long as the publicity is not distasteful or harmful for the IFR and its goals.

The catalogue must be published in English. Additional languages are allowed.

## **7 Scoreboard.**

All results will, as soon as possible, be clearly readable published on a scoreboard at the secretariat and if available on the website on the event and/or some digital platform that is open for the public but also in the track area (in the accompanying car).

## **8. Trial Director.**



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The national organisation running the event shall provide a by experience qualified trial Director whose work shall include, in particular:

- technical running of the trial
- provision, planning and equipment of a sufficiently large track area
- providing a sufficient number of (at least 6) qualified tracklayers (with approx.. the same weight) but also of sufficient stewards, guides to and from the tracking areas, staff for the secretariat, ...
- draft of the tracking schedule
- be the person available for all communication for all participants and/or possible teamleaders before and during the competition, unless for matters that directly concern the tracking and for which the tracking director is empowered. The participants and teamleaders will be given the phone- number at which the trial-director can, within reason, be reached.
- the presence of the latest version of the IFH 1 and IFH 2 and IGP FH regulations.
- appointment of persons making certain that only the dog handler, the judge and the track layer can enter the track.
- preparing the evaluation sheets for the trial judges
- the quick and reliable working out of the trial results to determine the winner and order of placing

## **9. Tracking Director.**

The Trial Director, unless he combines both functions, will appoint a tracking director, being an qualified IPO judge, who will :

- assist in the selection of the tracking-fields; he may refuse a ground if he finds it not appropriate to use in the event, for instance if a section of the terrain differs greatly from the other tracks through unforeseen changes in the nature of the soil
- organize the track area
- assist in the determination of the tracking-schedule;
- instruct the track-layers and see to it that they have the objects timely in their possession;
- determine the nature of the objects and the order in which they are laid on the tracks;
- see to it that the objects and tracks are numbered;
- witness the laying of the tracks and if necessary decide to have a new track laid when the first is no longer usable because of external influences or to advise the Judge to do so.
- exclude tracklayers should the ignore FCI FH regulations and/or the directions given by the Tracking Director.



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The trial-director is the contact-person for the competitors or possible teamleaders for all matters that concern the tracking-part of the trial. The participants and possible teamleaders will be given the phone-number at which the trial-director can, within reason, be reached.

## **10. Judges.**

When deciding on the judges that will be invited, the IFR member club that organises the IGP or IFH World Championship should always consider choosing judges of a member club or on such who regularly evaluate Rottweilers for member clubs that do not have own judges. Furthermore, the proposals for the judges must be submitted to the IFR board for approval. The information has to be checked by the board, and an approval is required.

The organizing club will invite one judge for each level in the competition : IFH 1 and IFH 2.

If competition in IGP FH is offered, then for this level 2 judges will be invited who will each judge one of the two tracks of each competitor.

The name of the judges will be sent to the IFR-Board for approval. They may not be a member of the organizing committee. Only after prior approval by the IFR-board, these judges will be officially invited by the organizing club. A copy of the invitation and the acceptance will be sent to the secretary of the IFR-board.

Only judges from countries whose national Rottweiler club is a member of the IFR can be invited.

All costs of travelling, lodging and meals of the judges will be paid by the organizing club, just as is the case for the costs of all other persons involved in the organization of the World Championship. The organizing Memberclub will ensure to have clear agreements on this with all concerned to ensure their cooperation and avoid all discussions.

Should a judge and/or the trial director and / or the tracking director have a problem to express him- or herself in English, the organizing club will see to it that a translator is available.

## **11. Tracking grounds**

The World Championship is to be held in accordance with IFH 1 and IFH 2 and IGP FH regulations, incl. the conditions set forward for the nature of the tracking grounds, the length of tracks, number and nature of objects, etc. No grounds may during the event be



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used for more than one track. The grounds must not be identical but of equivalent quality and must allow all tracking work to be judged on a correct equivalent basis.

All participants will not only timely receive the time schedule but also a plan with driving directions to the tracking grounds, if possible incl. GPS-coordinates. The organizer will provide a key place/stand for competitors, spectators and trial personnel to assemble from where he will guide them (starting at prior communicated times) to the track area. This does not include actual transportation of persons and/or dogs, only guidance.

At the tracking area a (moving) canteen must be made available to cater (food and drink) for the competitors, spectators and track layers and judges. It will offer food and drink.

The competitors can be allocated a training ground for tracking training which corresponds (but is not necessarily identical) to the actual tracking grounds. For more information, they will contact the Trial Director. Prior training on the effective tracking grounds for the World Championship will lead to disqualification.

## **12. Meetings – draw.**

Before the start of the World Championship, a meeting will be held between the members of the board of the IFR who are present, the judges, the trial-director, the tracking-director and the representatives of the organizing club.

Afterwards, a meeting will be organized between the before-mentioned persons and the participants during which the course of the trial can be discussed with the judges and the objects for the tracking will be shown. All scorebooks must at that time be in possession of the trial secretary and if not the case the participants concerned will be excluded from participation.

After this meeting, a lottery, organized open to the public, will decide on the trial numbers of the participants. Participants will be grouped for the benefit of the organization of the tracking fields and the course of the competition. These groups will register at the meeting places at the tracking grounds where a second lottery, organized only after the tracks for the group concerned are laid, will decide on the final order of tracking.

The draw will be done in alphabetical order (based on the first letter of the country-names of the competitors). The organizing country draws lastly.

If competition in IGP FH is offered, the time schedule must be made up in such a way that each competitor only has to work out one track in a day and in such a way that each competitor works out one track in the morning and the other one in the afternoon.

## **13. Veterinary control.**





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Before the draw of the participation-numbers, all dogs will have been submitted to a veterinary control. Dogs that are not in good condition or that show to be ill, will not be allowed to participate.

Female dogs in heat will be allowed to participate but will at all times be kept isolated from all other dogs.

At all times a veterinary will be present or at least stand-by and quickly reachable.

#### **14. Identity-control.**

Identity control, which is moreover part of the mandatory wesen-test, is to be done before the participant presents himself/herself with the dog to the judge to start tracking.

The control will be done by the tracking judge or by another IPO-judge who is in particular appointed for this by the organizing club with prior approval by the IFR-Board.

The organizing club will see to it that a micro-chip reader is available at the tracking field for the judge to use.

Should the apparatus be unable to find and/or read the micro-chip while proven to be in working order, it will be the responsibility of the handler to prove the identity of the dog by handing over an apparatus with which the chip can be found and read. In case a tattoo and/or chip cannot be found or shows to be totally unreadable, the dog will be excluded from participation.

At all times during the trial, the organization can demand that the identity of the dog must be proven. If the dog is not identified by micro-chip or by a tattoo in the ear but only by a tattoo elsewhere on the body (belly or inner-thigh), the participant can ask the organization to postpone the control until he has finished the exercise.

#### **14. Classification and title**

The scores will be mentioned in the scorebooks of the participants.

At each level of the competition, so both in IFH 1 an IFH 2 , the competitor with the highest score shall be the winner of the competition and be awarded the title of "20xx (to indicate the date) IFR IFH 1 / IFH 2 World Champion".

In the case of a tied score and in case the evaluation sheets of the judges (given to the tracking director and trial secretary as soon as possible after each track and always prior to the drafting of the final results) do not offer a solution (all final scores are rounded figures while the judge may have first noted results after the comma before rounding the score), then the title and prize will be shared.



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In case of a IGP FH competition, the competitor with the highest total number of points shall be the winner and be awarded the title of "20xx (to indicate the date) IFR IGP FH World Champion".

In the case of a tied score, the higher individual result shall be decisive. In the case of tied individual results, and in case the evaluation sheets of the judges do not offer a solution (cfr. ut supra) the title and prize will be shared.

After the competition a meeting will be organized at which all officials (judges, track layers, tracking director, trial director, secretary, ... ) and all competitors (with dog) will be invited and present. The final and official results will be announced and a distribution of prizes organized.

The place of this meeting and distribution of prizes must allow for public to be present and give the occasion the importance and appearance that becomes a World Championship. The national flags of all participants will be present and the organizing club will also see to it that the national hymn of all participating countries is available.

The organizing club will see to it that prizes are available for:

- the winners of the competition at both levels.
- a souvenir for all participants;
- a souvenir for the judges and the other collaborators.

The IFR will offer sponsorship to the price-table within its means.

During the distribution of the prizes, the results of all scores must be proclaimed and the national hymn of the winners of the competition will be played during the announcement of the title and distribution of the prize they obtain.

## **15. Complaints.**

The judges' decision is final and incontestable. Objections or protests shall only be possible on account of non-compliance with the IFH 1 – IFH 2 – IGP FH rules.

Any protest must be lodged with the Trial Director, in writing and before the beginning of the prize distribution and thus the official announcement of the results of the competition.

In such case, a guarantee bond of € 250 euro must be lodged at the same time which shall be forfeited in favour of the organisation if the protest is rejected.

The proceedings shall be conducted in a meeting open to the public by a board presided by the present member(s) of the board of the IFR. The tracking judge will be heard just as well as the person complaining and possible witnesses. The ruling shall be made by



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the tracking-director and all judges who judged at the event, excluding the persons concerned by the complaint. Their decision will be final.

## **16. Insurance**

The organizing club will make sure it has an insurance that covers all its collaborators, judges, track-layers and helpers. The IFR can in no way be held responsible for eventual accidents and damages.

Each competitor is responsible for the damages caused by his dog and the organizing club has the right to demand that the handler can prove that his liability toward third parties is covered by an insurance.

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