



# International Rescue Dog Organisation

## Manual of Standards for the Execution of an IRO World Championship

(13<sup>th</sup> Edition → 22.01.2012 – 71<sup>st</sup> executive board meeting)

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First Edition	16.09.2000
Last Revision	May 2010
Approved	22.01.2012 – 71 <sup>st</sup> Executive Board Meeting
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## C H A N G E S

Date	Changes
10.08.2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New point 2.2</li> <li>• Supplement point 5.2</li> <li>• Supplement point 5.3</li> <li>• Supplement point 5.4</li> <li>• Supplement point 5.6</li> <li>• New point 5.7</li> <li>• Replaced point 6.1</li> <li>• New point 6.4</li> </ul>
19.05.2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Point 4.4 – requirement for participation</li> </ul>
22.01.2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Point 2.1. – Adjustment according to IPO-R 2012</li> <li>• Point 4.8. – Registration Deadline</li> <li>• Point 6.4. – Adjustment according to IPO-R 2012</li> </ul>

## 1. General

- 1.1. In general, the rules set down in the IPO-R have authority and are to be adhered to exactly. In the following, the rules and regulations are supplemented and clarified and the requirements for the hosting National Search and Rescue Dog Organisation (NRO) set down.
- 1.2. In addition to this manual the rules and regulations of the guideline for organising IRO testing events are valid, if there is no other regulation in this manual.
- 1.3. Any questions arising out of, or matters concerning the world championship not specified in this manual are decided by the president of the IRO in consultation with the concerned assessors and the supervisory person designated by the commission (the supervising judge).

## 2. Execution

- 2.1. The execution of the world championship must always include at least 2 categories as set down in the IPO-R and may be selected by the hosting organisation. The announcement has to be in the highest test level category according to the IPO-R:

Tracking-, area-, rubble search, avalanche testing and water rescue      **Level B**

- 2.2. The number of applicants for a category must be at least 5, otherwise this testing event will not be executed.

## 3. Awarding of the championship

The executive board of the IRO assigns the organisation and execution of the world championship to an NRO or may put on the event itself in cooperation with a partner organisation.

The awarding of the world championship is decided by a majority vote of the executive board of the IRO. In the event of a tied vote, the president of the IRO breaks the tie. Applications to host the world championships in a given year must be received by the opening of the championship of the previous year.

If necessary, the hosting NRO can apply for prolongation of the event for one day when handing in the application.

## 4. Eligibility and registration of participants

- 4.1. The total number of participants in a world championship is not limited.  
Should conditions warrant, however, the president of the IRO in consultation with the organisers may set a limit.
- 4.2. Every member organisation may enter up to 8 dog handlers but may not enter more than 50 % (= 4 dog handlers) in any one category.
- 4.3. Every non-member organisation may enter up to 3 dog handlers but may not enter them all in any one category.
- 4.4. Each dog handler may participate with only one dog.  
Dog handlers are to participate in scent work, if available, using their home organisation's uniform/equipment. Otherwise handlers are to appear in appropriate rescue dog discipline clothing.

Each dog entered in a given category must have passed the highest test level according to IPO-R in this category, by the registration deadline. This test must be judged by an official

designated judge of the FCI or IRO with allowance for international testing. The test has to be passed with a minimum of 270 points (Evaluation: sehr gut/excellent)

- 4.5. Each participating organisation may register one reserve participant for the world championship who will also be listed in the registry. If a participant, as defined in section 4.2 or 4.3, is unable to compete, only a registered reserve participant may fill in.
- 4.6. Members of the organising committee may not participate as dog handlers in the world championships.
- 4.7. The world championship has to be announced to the member organisations of IRO and the umbrella organisations of the neighbouring countries through the IRO office at least six months prior the execution of the event. The event has to be announced as IRO – world championship and the organising NRO has to be mentioned. The hosting NRO must make official notification of the event in German, English as well as in the language of the hosting country at least three months prior to the event. All publications have to be made with the logo of the hosting NRO and with the logo of IRO.
- 4.8. Organisations, who wish to enter participants into the competition, have to submit the number of participants and the categories to the organising committee by August 1st of the year of the competition. The organising committee has to forward this information to the IRO office.  
This announcement has to contain the submitting organisation's regulations regarding uniforms and equipment in either German or English language.
- 4.9. The registry of participants by name must be submitted by the participating organisation, using the appropriate IRO form, to the head of the organising committee no longer than four weeks prior to the world championship and may thereafter no longer be altered or changed in any way.
- 4.10. The registration fee is determined by the executive board of the IRO in consultation with the organisers. A fee of € 50, - per dog handler is recommended.

## **5. Organisation**

- 5.1. The written minutes of the meetings of the organising committee are to be submitted in either German or English language to the IRO supervisor (supervising judge) and to the IRO office in the week following the meeting.  
Organisational plans which concern the entrants are to be cleared with the IRO office prior to being sent to the team leaders. The plans for the execution of off-leash-heeling (according to IPO-R) are to be included as well.
- 5.2. A registry booklet must be compiled clearly naming each participant, each reserve participant and the timetable of events. Participants are to receive a registration number which is to be clearly worn. The dog handlers receive the predetermined numbers. The logo of the IRO has to be attached on both sides.
- 5.3. Scheduling is to be structured so that scent exercises fall on a day other than that of the obedience/dexterity exercise.  
The Obedience/Dexterity exercise is to be conducted as individual exercises. The elaborated schedule has to be forwarded to the supervising judge and to the Spokesperson for Training and Judges 2 weeks prior to the registration deadline at the latest.
- 5.4. A running tally of results must be publicly posted on a clearly visible score board. In addition to the start number, also the catalogue number has to be listed.
- 5.5. In the event of tied scores and even results, participants will share the same ranking.

- 5.6. The term „IRO Weltmeisterschaft“ („IRO-WM“) as well as the names of all judges who have evaluated the dog concerned, must be clearly entered into the log book of each dog handler next to the final result and be signed by the designated supervising judge. The hosting organisation also has to prepare the evaluation lists and those will be signed as a whole by the supervising judge and by the organiser.
- 5.7. The main judges will receive the waterproof versions of the score sheets, while the co-judges receive a copy on a 100g/m<sup>2</sup> paper.
- 5.8. Regulations concerning objection/protest during the world championship:  
An objection may only be lodged by a team leader. A fee of € 250,- must be set aside, which will fall to the IRO of the objection is not upheld.  
The appeal will be chaired by the Spokesperson for Training and Judges of the IRO or by a substitute from the executive board of the IRO that has been named by him. The verdict will be reached by a committee consisting of the chairperson, the supervising judge, the judge of the discipline concerned, the event-manager or the testing supervisor of the discipline concerned, and if the objection concerns tracking work, additionally the tracking supervisor.
- 5.9. If a test has to be aborted because of injury or illness IRO will only cover the expenses for a veterinarian check if the dog is not apparently ill or injured or if the handed in medical certification is not convincing or if the IRO supervising judge requests a certification by a specially selected veterinarian. If there is no medical certification handed in first place and the dog is apparently not injured or ill the test will be assessed as ungenügend/unsatisfactory.
- 5.10. If a participating dog handler inflicts cruelty to a dog this has to be immediately reported to the IRO supervisor (supervising judge) by the organisers. In the following talk with the team leader and the affected dog handler the facts are clarified. If the accusation is approved the team leader and the affected dog handler are both disqualified.

## **6. Testing grounds and scheduling**

- 6.1. A veterinary check will be conducted at the registration. Besides the inoculation designation, it has to include a motion check and for female dogs a check if she is in heat.
- 6.2. The drawing of lots for starting positions is to be held publicly among the dog handlers themselves on the evening prior to the competition.  
The order of each country's turn in the drawing of lots itself is determined also by the drawing of lots in the meeting of team leaders.  
The hosting organisation is automatically the last organisation to draw a lot for a starting position.
- 6.3. A demonstration of obedience/dexterity will be held after the judges meeting and the team leader's meeting. This will be demonstrated with a test dog (Chien blanc) and commented by the judge team. The hosting organisation makes sure, that at least two test dogs, which cope with the tasks, are available during the preparation and demonstration. The team leaders are allowed to linger at the lot during the demonstration and explanation. Only the supervising judge has the final decision in case of additional exceptions.
- 6.4. The grounds for scent work should provide equal conditions for all participants. The supervisor (supervising judge) and the tracking supervisor are to be shown the ground beforehand.  
The grounds used for scent work (in tracking) on Friday can be reused on Sunday.

Qualified scent layers and well oriented “victims” must be used and must be at least 16 years of age.

The section Obedience/Dexterity must be demonstrated on an individual basis and may not be presented as a group discipline adhering to the prefixed plan for off-leash heeling according to IPO-R.

Scores are to be announced by the judge using a public address system.

- 6.5. Catering/Refreshments must be made available for participants, spectators and assistants.
- 6.6. World championship points (WM points) are to be used in tallying the team scores. WM points may only be earned by dog handlers who achieved a positive assessment in the overall results of the world championship and who therefore received an entry into their log book.

Teams are comprised of the 3 dog handlers from a single participating organisation who achieve the highest score of WM points regardless of the category in which they were scored.

The end result may only contain those teams who have scored 3 positive assessments.

WM points:

Rank 1	30 points	Rank 6	15 points	Rank 11	5 points
Rank 2	27 points	Rank 7	13 points	Rank 12	4 points
Rank 3	24 points	Rank 8	11 points	Rank 13	3 points
Rank 4	21 points	Rank 9	9 points	Rank 14	2 points
Rank 5	18 points	Rank 10	7 points	Rank 15	1 point

- 6.7. In the award ceremony, the announcement of the individual test results is to be made before the announcement of the team results. The national anthem for the team/participant in first place is to be played and all participants who achieved overall positive results are to be called up by name.
- 6.8. Cups may only be presented for actually delivered work. Age, sex, nationality, NRO membership or similar reasons are not entitled for receiving a cup.

The allocation of sponsored cups is done by the organisers in consultation with the IRO supervisor (supervising judge).

## **7. Judges and supervisory personnel**

- 7.1. The executive board of the IRO designates a supervisor of the world championship (the supervising judge) from the field of IRO recognised judges. The supervising judge is responsible for the adherence to all rules and regulations contained in the IPO-R and the manual of standards. The organising NRO has to follow all instructions of the supervising judge.
- 7.2. The executive board of the IRO designates a person as tracking supervisor who is charged with checking the grounds and facilities to be used for tracking work. The organising NRO is obliged to follow the instructions of the tracking supervisor in matters pertaining to scent work of tracking.
- 7.3. The executive board of the IRO designates the judges to be used, who may not be members of the organising NRO.

If these judges do not have working knowledge of the language of the country in which the competition takes place, interpreters must be provided who are acquainted with the

necessary technical jargon, scheduling and canine knowledge and are charged with maintaining total discretion.

- 7.4. The day-fees and the cost of travel to and from the competition of the supervising judge, the tracking supervisor and the judges will be covered by the IRO. The fees are determined by the executive board of the IRO and are as follows:  
€ 100,00 per day, travel reimbursement per receipt (train or air ticket) or mileage reimbursement of € 0,50 per kilometre plus related costs. Furthermore IRO will cover the cost for accommodation including breakfast for the above mentioned persons.
- 7.5. The executive board of the IRO determines one deputy judge for each category. The designated deputy judges may not be members of the same NRO as the main judge for a category.
- 7.6. The compensation of the deputy judges takes place according to the compensation of the main judges (see point 7.4.).
- 7.7. If necessary the IRO office obtains the clearance for foreign changes at the respective organisation in time.
- 7.8. Before the opening of the world championship a judges meeting and a team leader meeting must take place, each chaired by the supervising judge.  
The following people are to take part in the judges meeting: the judges, the deputy judges, the event leader and the testing leader.  
The following people are to take part in the team leader's meeting: the team leaders and the event leader.  
Members of the executive board of the IRO are entitled to take part in either meeting, provided they are not active participants in the competition.

This guideline manual was drafted, approved by signature and became effective at the meeting of the executive board of the IRO on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2000. There were made amendments in the following meetings, approved by signature.

This actual guideline from January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012 replaces all previous guideline manuals.