



International Search and Rescue Dog Organisation

National IRO Mission Readiness Test Area and Reclassification

Guideline for the organisation and evaluation

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For reasons of readability, the masculine form is used throughout this guide. However, all references are intended to apply equally to women and individuals of all gender identities. The masculine form is used solely for linguistic simplicity and should be understood as gender-neutral..

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1. Introduction to the National IRO MRT Area (National MRT–FL)

- IRO is responsible for the management of the national MRT-FL.
- The local NROs support the IRO in local and political matters.
- Testing criteria shall be standardized and applied and reviewed by trained Classifiers.
- The hosting NRO is permitted to charge participation fees.
- No sport examination is required for admission to the national MRT-FL; the prerequisites specified in Section 2.1 must be fulfilled.
- The registering NRO is responsible for ensuring the physical and mental fitness of the team being assessed. Participation in IRO courses and the IRO MRT Preparation is the responsibility of the handlers and is recommended.
- The national MRT-FL shall be accessible on all continents and may be organized on a regional basis.
- Each NRO shall ensure that its rescue dog teams are adequately prepared for the national MRT-FL.
- The National MRT-FL is scenario-based and includes searches, canine first aid, and GPS/map reading/orientation/search tactics.
- The practical search work shall be evaluated using a standardized assessment sheet (see Annex A). During the national MRT-FL, a minimum of three search exercises of 60 minutes each in area search and path search, conducted during both daytime and nighttime conditions, must be completed within two days.
- The number of victims to be located shall always remain undisclosed.
- The number of victims may vary from one search area to another; however, the total number of victims throughout the entire MRT must be identical for all participants. This number shall be determined by the Department for Deployment.
- To pass the national MRT-FL, rescue dog teams must locate at least 70% of the victims. False alerts are permitted, depending on the number of victims, in accordance with the provisions set out in Point 5 “Assessment”.

1.1 General Information

- The IRO Department for Deployment is responsible for the national MRT-FL and may assign a NRO to carry out the event in close cooperation with the IRO Office. Any NRO may apply to organise an national IRO MRT, provided that it disposes of test areas and that the Department for Deployment accepts the application.
- The IRO MRT may host an international observer program. International observers must be registered prior to the MRT and attend the event within the framework of an observer program provided by IRO.
- Gross unsportsmanlike behaviour, aggressive behaviour of the dog or cheating in any way (eg. passing-on information on victim-locations, etc.), can lead to a disqualification by the Senior Classifier. The Senior Classifier will instruct the relevant individual to leave the event immediately.
- In the case of aggressive behaviour of the dog and/or injury of persons and damage of dogs or objects the disqualification can result in the following measures:

No apparent injury or damage:

- A warning shall be issued by the Department for Deployment.
- In the event of a repeated incident, the Department for Deployment may request that the Executive Board review the case and decide on further action.

Apparent injury/damage:

- The Senior Classifier initiates the review for a ban on participation.
- The responsible Department for Deployment representative shall initiate a review regarding a participation ban.
- The Executive Board shall decide on the matter in accordance with the applicable disciplinary regulations, provided that the necessary written reports have been submitted in due time. The handler and the affected person must be informed accordingly on site.

In the case of a ban, the following procedure is necessary (assessment procedure):

- Obtaining a written statement from the dog handler
- Obtaining a written statement from the classifier, worksite manager, persons injured and possible witnesses
- Resolution by the Executive Board on the ban

Notification of the ban will include the dog's data (breed, name, date of birth, chipnumber and/or tattoo) and will be communicated:

- to the dog handler and his/her NRO in writing and via email
 - to the Classifier and the IRO NRO, at whose event the incident took place, via email
 - in the next issue of the IRO Info
-
- In any case, the responsible Spokesperson is entitled to impose a preliminary ban for preventive reasons until the assessment procedure is completed.
 - A dog and handler are considered a "team" and mission readiness is achieved as a team. Therefore only the same team, with proof of competency can work together under an IRO MRT certification.
 - The national MRT-FL is based on a scenario of recent events resulting in the need for supra-regional assistance.
 - The search task at the national MRT-FL is to locate as many survivors as possible in the different areas, which vary in type and difficulty.
 - All participants in the national MRT-FL receive a full brief by the classifier on each search, on the procedures to be followed and on the dangerous areas. All participants must be reminded that they have a duty to continually carry out a dynamic risk assessment for the duration of the search.
 - The team shall have 60 minutes available for the search operation, depending on the search assignment. This includes 5 minutes for questioning and briefing; any extension of the questioning or briefing period shall be deducted from the search time. An additional 5 minutes shall be allocated for the operational debriefing.
 - The task of the dog handler is to guide and direct the dog in order to solve the presented tactical situation within the time provided.

- The dog handler must demonstrate team work with his search dog. He has to read him and must communicate the information he gathered to the Classifiers, after the search.
- At the national MRT-FL the dog handler has to demonstrate, that he can act in a tactically appropriate way in the search area.
- The handler retains responsibility for and maintains control over the dog at all times during the assessment.
- In order to allow a uniform and appropriate presentation of IRO, the hosting NRO and of the event itself in the public and the media a separate PR/Media Guideline has been defined and can be found as Appendix C to this Guideline.

1.2 Requirements for the organisation of an National IRO MRT FL

- In order to hold an national MRT-FL, there must be a minimum of 10 dog handlers fulfilling the requirements for participation. Should the number of 10 participating teams not be reached by the application deadline, the national IRO MRT-FL will be cancelled.
- The execution of an National MRT-FL can be cancelled due to any unforeseeable reasons.
- A maximum of 16 qualified participants per round may participate due to organisational and infrastructural circumstances.
- For the organization of a national MRT-FL comprising two main groups (four event days), a minimum of 24 teams shall participate. If this requirement is not met, the MRT-FL shall be reduced to one main group (two event days) with a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 16 participating teams.
- The Nat. IRO MRT-FL shall be planned by the hosting NRO in such a way as to include a weekend (irrespective of whether it is a two day or four day event). Deviations from this requirement need to be approved by the Department for Deployment. As search work is assessed at day and by night time, a shift work for the helpers will have to be planned, where applicable.

2. Information for participants

2.1 Requirements for participation

- Applicants must hold either the highest area search qualification of the NRO or have successfully passed an Area Search B (RH FL-B) Testing Event in accordance with IPO-R, conducted by an international IRO or international FCI judge. Registration shall be made through the respective NRO, with priority given to members of IRO member NROs.
- With the registration, participants must hand in proof of a First Aid Course (incl. Basic Life Support/CPR) according to an internationally acknowledged standard with the registration. The proof must not be older than 3 years.
- The dog, must be younger than 8 years of age at its first national MRT-FL participation.
- The dog handler shall confirm that he or she is currently in good physical condition and fit to participate in the national MRT-FL.
- Female dogs in heat are allowed to start at the MRT Area, provided that they can start at the end of the day or night.

- The dog must have all documentation and vaccinations for international deployments, as determined by the Department for Deployment.
- Personal Protective Equipment(PPE) such as helmet, safety boots, gloves, clothing, etc. are required. For recommendations for personal equipment (PE) and requirements regarding to the PPE please see Appendix B
- Each participant must have the necessary equipment to ensure accommodation and provisions for the duration of the MRT, if not planned differently by the organiser.
- Participants in the national MRT-FL may communicate in the language of the country hosting the national MRT-FL. If international evaluators from outside the host country are invited and do not speak the local language, the organizing NRO shall be responsible for providing suitable interpreters.
- Should be request that participants bring helpers from their NRO acting as hiding persons, these individuals are not allowed to participate in the MRT-FL as a rescue dog team.
- Participants have to arrange their accommodation on their own – in case a Base of Operations (BoO) will not be established. Information regarding accommodation and BoO will be announced prior the event.

2.2 IRO Mission Office

- The National MRT-FL begins with the registration of the participants at the IRO Mission Office.
- The IRO Mission Office shall be strategically situated. The exact location of the IRO Mission Office is published in due time.
- An equipment check will be carried out for each participant at the IRO Mission Office.
- Inadequate equipment (PPE, PE, food or accommodation) can lead to disqualification of the participating team. (See Appendix B for PE and PEE)
- Within the IRO Mission Office, the participating dogs shall undergo a veterinary inspection, including verification of the vaccination record and compliance with the required vaccination schedule, by a veterinarian approved by the IRO. If the vaccinations do not meet the requirements, the team shall not be permitted to participate in the national MRT. Should the veterinarian identify any health-related issue, he or she shall inform the Senior Classifier. Depending on the severity of the issue, a decision shall be made as to whether the rescue dog team may participate in the event. In cases involving medical concerns, the veterinarian's decision shall be final and may not be overruled.
- Following the proper registration of participants at the IRO EZZ and the completion of all administrative formalities, the instructions will begin..

Vet check procedure:

- First, the dog and the dog handler approach the veterinarian without a muzzle for the microchip check. The purpose is another than identification, it is to see if the dog has aggressive tendencies and if he allows the approach of a stranger
- After that check, the muzzle has to be used from this point on, just in case the vet says so it can be put off.
- The full vet check procedure is performed with the open possibility to exclude the dog handler and the dog if:

- the dog is aggressive or has aggressive tendencies
- the handler can't control the dog for the vet check
- the veterinarian can't perform the vet check out of any reasons from the dog or the handler
- the dog bites or attacks anybody during the time of the vet check
- If the event veterinarian declares a dog unfit for participation, this decision shall be final and may not be contested on the basis of any assessment, opinion, or certificate issued by an external veterinarian.

2.3 Behavior in the Base Camp

- Catering within the base camp during the national MRT-FL must be organized by the participants themselves.
- Power generators brought by participants/NROs must be placed at the edge of the Base Camp at a sufficient distance from the nearest tent.

2.4. Schedule for the participants

- There is no fixed schedule for the participants.
- An exception to this is a scheduled rest period of 4 hours.
- All participants must be able to establish operational readiness within 15 minutes upon request.
- A minimum working break of 60 minutes shall be scheduled between the first two search operations.

2.5. Measures in Case of Emergencies

- Appropriate emergency measures shall be defined in advance (e.g. communication of emergency numbers, possible coordination with local physicians, etc.).
- In the event of an emergency, the Senior Classifier and, if necessary, the veterinarian shall be informed immediately after initial measures have been taken.
- In the event of an emergency, a detailed accident report shall be obtained from the following persons:
 - Injured person or dog handler
 - Worksite evaluator
 - Senior Classifier
 - Any other witnesses
- At the national MRT-FL, at least one veterinarian shall be present on site. In addition, the hosting NRO shall designate a veterinary clinic in the vicinity that is available for further veterinary emergencies during the national MRT-FL. Costs for veterinary treatment shall be borne by the dog handler.
- A detailed accident report shall be submitted to the IRO Office within 14 days after the incident and shall include the following information:
 - Location / time / date
 - Persons involved and, if applicable, dogs involved
 - Detailed description of the incident (including photographs if available)
 - Type of measures taken

2.6. Departure of the Participants

- All participants are responsible to arrange for the homeward journey.

3. Organisation Team

The Test Management consists of:

- Senior Classifier + 2 Supervising Classifiers
- Office
- On-site Facilitator
- Classifiers
- Organising NRO

In case classifiers' evaluations differ, the Senior Classifier, after taking into consideration all available facts, takes a final decision.

Roles and responsibilities:

3.1 Senior Classifier

- The IRO Spokesperson for the Department for Deployment or one of his Deputies or a person appointed by the Spokesperson shall as Senior Classifier be the head of the test administration. In cooperation with the IRO Office and the organising NRO, the Senior Classifier is responsible for the overall organisation of the national MRT-FL.
- Can control, in coordination with the IRO office, if all participants meet the requirements for the participation at the national MRT-FL.
- Assigns, the search areas and hides, in coordination with the On-site Facilitator.
- Selects the two supervising classifiers from the A and B classifiers on the official IRO classifier list, as well as subject matter specialists for the additional testing subjects.
- The Senior Classifier and the supervising classifiers shall be present on site one to two days in advance in order to inspect the terrain and to assign the search areas in accordance with the assessment criteria, as well as to allocate the classifiers.
- Assigns the classifiers to the various search areas and determines the overall tactical situation.
- In coordination with the supervising classifiers, determines the hiding locations and the number of hiding person (HP).
- Decides which distraction in what form are used on which sites.
- May order, if needed, that a demonstration by a mission ready dog is carried out prior to the first search.
- Ensures that the evaluation is done in accordance to the IRO Guidelines.
- Where a dog shows aggression or is found to be physically unfit by the veterinarian on duty, either prior to or during the test, or where a dog exhibits aggression behaviours towards a victim or any other individual, the Senior Classifier is responsible for the decision to disqualify the particular team from the MRT. He decides after deliberation with the other Classifiers.
- Where in a particular case, Classifiers are of divergent opinions, the Senior Classifier acts as an arbitrator and is responsible for the final decision, after hearing both sides.

- The Senior Classifier organises and leads the Classifiers' meetings.
- Reviews all evaluations and takes the final decision in regard to the successful MRT-FL status of each team.

3.2 IRO Office

- The IRO Office supports the NRO in the preparation of the invitation.
- It enters participants' data into the evaluation system / cockpit and provides – if necessary – all score sheets and certificates for the test administration.
- Ensures that the list of IRO mission-ready rescue dog teams is updated after the National MRT FL.
- Forwards the completed, scanned score sheets to the organising NRO for distribution to the participants.

3.3 On-site facilitator

- The NRO, in coordination with the Department for Deployment appoints the On-site Facilitator.
- Their role is to identify and manage the implementation of:
 - A minimum of 3 worksites
 - Facilities for all additional MRT subjects
 - Facilities for welfare/logistics for the MRT process
- Coordinates or carries out the preparation of the terrain prior to the national MRT-FL.
- They are responsible to ensure that all requirements outlined in the guideline are met and brief all classifiers on their respective search sites.
- Prepares suitable hiding locations, where necessary.
- They prepare all documentation requested by the Department for Deployment in collaboration with the IRO Office. (e.g.: GPS-Data, Data for night searches...)
- Ensures the timely rotation of the Victims and, where required, the hiding locations.
- Supports the Classifiers.

3.4 Victims and hiding places

- The number of victims to be found shall not be disclosed.
- The number of victims may vary from one worksite to the other, however, the total number of victims at the MRT has to be the same for all participants. The number is defined by the Senior Classifier.
- Victims should be in the hiding places for at least 15 minutes before the dog begins its search.
- The hiding places of the victims can be changed for each team and each search.
- All victims will be placed in the hiding places out of sight of the handler and dog.
- The victims of the day- and night search have to sit or lay on the ground or at max. 2 meters of height (in a tree or similar) or 1 meter depth.
- At the search along a path, victims have to sit or to lay on the ground or at max. 2 meters of height (in a tree or similar) or 1 metre depth and max. 10 meters to the left or right off the path.

3.5 Distraction / Disturbance / Noise

- During the day- and night search at least two different distractions should occur.
- During the path search at least one distraction should be used.
- The following distractions may be used:
 - Hikers, campers, cyclists, lumberjacks
 - other dogs on leash
 - Open fire, etc.
- The dog is not allowed to let itself be distracted by any difficulties during the search. This also applies to a difficult terrain that imposes a barrier to its forward movement.

3.6 Classifiers

The Classifier Team consists of the following persons:

- 1 Senior Classifier (International IRO Classifier) and 2 Supervising Classifiers (International IRO Classifiers). The Supervising Classifiers are selected by the IRO Spokesperson for the Department for Deployment from the official IRO Classifier List (A and B Classifiers).
- 6–8 National Classifiers (depending on the number of participants). These are provided by the organising NRO and are trained, assessed, and certified by IRO experts within the framework of the Classifier Training Programme. The qualification of the candidates nominated as National MRT Classifiers is the responsibility of the respective NRO.
- Amongst other criteria, classifiers are selected according to their physical fitness due to the distance that needs to be covered during the national MRT-FL (approximately 60 – 70km).
- Each Classifier has to complete a score sheet for each team and each search.
- Scores below 3 points in any category must be accompanied by the Classifier's comment the score sheet in English, German or the local language.
- All Classifiers must attend the Classifiers meetings.

3.7 Organising NRO

- Prepares the invitation in cooperation with the IRO Office.
- In cooperation with the IRO Office, prepares the organisational schedule for the National MRT-FL on the basis of the National MRT-FL master schedule, allowing the implementation to be adapted to local conditions and circumstances.
- Ensures that the IRO Office receives all necessary information in a timely manner.
- Ensures that the infrastructure required by the IRO Department for Deployment is available.
- Provides veterinary emergency services as well as first aid coverage for the entire duration of the National MRT-FL.
- Provides suitable search areas, an area for the base camp, facilities for the registration and verification procedures, as well as rooms for meetings with participants and helpers. In addition, office facilities for the Senior Classifier shall be provided.
- Appoints a responsible coordinator who is in charge of all coordination measures between the test administration, the organising organisation, the participants, and the helpers.

- Assists in ensuring that the National MRT-FL is conducted in accordance with the IRO Guidelines.
- Provides a sufficient number of hiding persons (HP).
- Arranges transportation for the participants and the test administration and is responsible for the catering and accommodation of the test administration throughout the event.

4. Testing Area

4.1 General information

- The national MRT-FL is carried out in a realistic environment. The participants have to complete mission tasks, within which missing persons have to be found at a minimum of 3 worksites.
- Within 24-36 hours each team needs to carry out the following searches at a minimum:
 - 1x night search including orientation using map, compass, and GPS, conducted as a path side search.
 - 2x day search
- The search time for the day- and night search is max. 60 min. per search.
- The search area for the day search should be approx. 60.000 m² and should consist of forest-, meadow- or mixed areas, where a minimum of 50 % has to be covered by natural cover without artificial hiding places.
- The search time for the path side search is max. 60 min.
- The path to be searched has a length between 2,000m and 3,000 m.
- If the search work is carried out at night time, only headlamps, helmet lamps and hand held torches are allowed.
- All respective work sites shall include a minimum of 10 hiding possibilities.

4.2 Tactical situation

The evaluation system for the search work at the national MRT-FL takes into consideration the following criteria:

- Prior to each search assessment, the handler must receive a briefing on the scenario from the Classifiers and must be given the opportunity to ask questions. The handler informs the Classifiers on the dog's alert style to be used by the dog, whether the dog performs a recall/refind. Note that this briefing is part of the allocated to the search time.
- During the search assessments the dog must demonstrate that it can consistently locate live casualties and positively indicate those finds in a manner which leaves no doubt in the assessors' minds that a find has been made.
- The handler must show that the alert has been recognised. Where the dog stays with the casualty and indicates by a strong bark alert the handler must make their way to the point indicated by the dog and locate the victim. Where the dog performs a recall/refind and indicates by a strong bark alert or other means, the handler has to follow the dog to the point indicated and locate the victim. In either case, the location of the victim must be reported to the Classifiers at that time.
- The handler must demonstrate practical aspects of search operations in deployment as well as the essential tasks to be performed after locating a person.

The handler must demonstrate a full understanding of the following:

- Safe working method for a dog rescue team
- Familiarisation with the area (search brief from assessor team)
- Risk assessment of the area and taking the appropriate measures
- Give a search brief to one of the classifiers.
- Preparation of team for search
- Different types of search patterns
- Reporting points of interest or indications to the Classifiers.
- Demonstrate a full body check of their dog for any injuries that may have been sustained during the search
- Give a search de-brief to the Classifiers
- Carry out personal administration to prepare the team for next search
- For the day- and night search the sector which needs to be searched should be given to the participants with GPS coordinates and a general map, together with a general realistic scenario.
- For the search along path, the track which needs to be searched should be given to the participants with GPS coordinates and a general map, together with a realistic scenario. The participants then need to locate the track and search along it, covering the path itself and also max. 10 meters on each side.
- The dog handler may ask questions (in English, German or the local language) to the Classifier before deciding on a strategic mission plan.
- The dog handler must share his plan with the Classifiers and then execute the mission plan.
- The time needed to solve the tactical situation is part of the search time.
- An additional 5 minutes can be used after the initial 60 minutes allocated search time for debriefing classifiers of the dog handler's findings.

5. Evaluation

5.1 Evaluation of the search work

The main focus of the evaluation during the national MRT–FL is on the harmonic teamwork between dog handler and rescue dog in area search. The success rate within the three search tasks also the evaluation.

- The assessment is done by the Classifiers using a standardised score sheet and a computerised evaluation system. Each individual score sheet from each work site for each team is entered in the evaluation system in order to obtain the final result.
- The victims have to be found within the scheduled time
- In general it is important, that the dog fulfils the task in a calm, independent and constant manner.
- Criteria are teamwork/situational awareness/orientation, observation/reading the dog, eager to work/search drive, agility, independence/controllability as well as the dog's alert/ indication and behaviour of the dog handler during the search and at the victims place.

- The final evaluation of the MRT-FL is either a “pass” or “not passed”. At the minimum of 4.29 Points a team passed the national MRT-FL, in order to pass the MRT-FL the rescue dog team has to find at least 70% of the victims.
- Number of false alerts allowed:

Number of hidden victims	False alerts allowed
08 – 09	1
10 – 12	2

5.2 Evaluation of additional testing subjects

- The subjects First Aid Dog and GPS/Map reading/Orientation/Search Tactics are tested by subject matter experts theoretically and/or practically. The testing subjects may also be tested in a combined exercise.
- The assessment by the subject matter experts is conducted on a pass/fail basis. In all secondary disciplines, at least 50% of the questions must be answered correctly in order to pass the respective discipline. Secondary disciplines may be re-assessed at equivalent events.

5.3 Alert/Indication

- The Classifiers must be informed on the dog’s indication style before the start of the search assessments.
- Due to the variety of different types of searches carried out by Search and Rescue Dog Teams, three types of alerts that are allowed to be used on the assessment:
 - The Recall / Refind
 - Barking
 - Bringsel
- Recall / Refind: During the recall / re-find, the dog takes the quickest route back and forth between the handler and the victim thereby leading the handler to the victim or place of alert. In addition, the dog must clearly show the handler the sort of behaviour that can clearly be interpreted as alert behaviour.
- Barking: During barking indication, the dog clearly orients towards the hiding person or the source of scent and barks continuously and directionally until the handler terminates the indication. The dog must remain at an appropriate distance from the hiding person / indication site until the handler reaches the dog. The dog must not make physical contact with the hiding person. At enclosed hiding places accessible to the dog, it shall clearly indicate the exact location of the scent source through directional behaviour.
- Bringsel: A special collar, on which a “bringsel” is fixed, is fitted on the dog if it is doing bringsel work. The collar has to have a releasing mechanism, which protects the dog from injuries. When it has found the person the dog takes the bringsel to the handler. There is no need for it to sit during the handover of the bringsel. Once the bringsel has been removed, and at the order of the handler, the dog takes the handler directly and independently to the victim. Whilst doing so, the handler must be in constant contact with his dog. The dog may be taken on a leash with any length for this purpose.
- If the dog only shows interest in a specific area, where the situation makes it particularly difficult to get a positive alert, the handler must inform the Classifiers immediately so this can be

recorded. Using their own experience both Classifiers must agree that the dog has shown sufficient interest and can be credited with the find.

- At the victim, the dog has to alert independently and without any influence of the handler with the respective alert. Any influence or interference of the handler in regard to the alert, results to an evaluation of 0 points – the victim is evaluated as not found.
- The alerting behaviour must not be induced by the dog handler.
- The dog handler has to recognize the alert of the dog and must signalize it to the evaluation team by hand signal and by giving exact GPS coordinates. Every alert has to be reported by the dog handler.
- The dog handler should make contact and communicate with the victim (e.g. concerning the victim's condition, medical needs etc.).
- After the alert has been reported by the dog handler, the dog must stay at the alert area until rewarded or redirected by the handler. This rule does apply to dogs using bringsel and refind alert.
- It is not a mistake for the dog handler to allow their dog to continue to work the area, after the dog begins an alert (change in behaviour), until the dog has located the strongest scent source and then shows a definite alert. This must be acknowledged by the handler reporting the alert to the Classifiers to be recorded.
- As soon as the dog handler has reported the alert to the Classifiers, he may commend and encourage the search dog, as well as strengthen the triggered alert.
- The dog handler may reward the dog at the alert site. However, it is the responsibility of the dog handler to ensure that no food from the reward remains at the alert site.
- All relevant information concerning the find must be reported to the Classifiers.

6. Results

- The final evaluation states “passed” or “not passed”.
- Participants with a positive evaluation receive the designation ‘Mission Ready’ in the form of a certificate.
- Unsuccessful participants receive a certification of attendance.

6.1 Validity and Reclassification

- The designation “Mission Ready” is valid for two years. Reclassification is generally only possible after this two-year period.
- Reclassifications are conducted in accordance with the reclassification standards.

7. Reclassification

7.1. General Information

- As a general rule, the same rules and regulations as for the National MRT-FL apply to reclassification.
- Reclassification is carried out as part of a National MRT-FL.

8. Acceptance of an Nat. IRO MRT Area

- The execution of an national MRT-FL, that is carried out independently by the NRO in regard to administrative and financial aspects, is possible in agreement with the Department for Deployment depending on the respective framework conditions.
- Application for the execution of a national IRO MRT-FL is to be made to the Department for Deployment through the IRO Office until 30.06. of the previous year at the latest.
- Should the regulations of the IRO Guidelines for the MRT not be followed, it is not accepted as an MRT-FL in regard to mission readiness certification.

APPENDIX A – Score Sheet national Mission Readiness Test Area

IRO MRT-FL Evaluation Sheet

Name Classifier:		Worksite & Date:	
Name Dog Handler:		Start number:	
Name Dog:		Chip No.:	
Start- / Endtime		Classifier's personal opinion:	☐ passed ☐ not passed
Number of figurants at the worksite:			
Number of figurants found:			
Overall score:			

General Evaluation		
DH/Dog	Evaluation Criteria	Remarks to criteria 1-5: If score is 2 or below comment is obligatory!
	1. Teamwork / Situational Awareness / Orientation	
	2. Observation / Reading the dog	
	3. Eager to work / Search drive	
	4. Agility	
	5. Independence / Controllability	
TOTAL GENERAL		

Evaluation Alerts			
DH	Dog	Figurant	Remarks to criteria 1-4: If score is 2 or below comment is obligatory!
		1	
		2	
		3	
		4	
TOTAL ALERTS			

Number of false alerts

IRO MRT-FL Evaluation Sheet

Classifier Feedback

	Positive	Negative
Dog handler		
Dog		
Further Comments		

IRO MRT-FL Evaluation Key

General Evaluation		
Teamwork / Situational awareness / Orientation	4	exceptional teamwork (incl. considering the dog's wellbeing and safety), tactical situation is perfectly understood and executed, has good orientation in the search area
	3	good teamwork (dog's wellbeing and safety are still considered), tactical situation is understood and partly executed, knows the borders of the search area, mostly knows his own location
	2	teamwork still visible (consideration of dog's wellbeing and safety is insufficient); tactical situation is not executed, does not have a general overview of the search area
	1	Teamwork (especially safety and wellbeing of the dog) is hardly visible, DH and/or dog leave the search area several times, DH does not know where dog is
	0	Teamwork (especially safety and wellbeing of the dog) is not visible, does not have an overview over the area, team is not in the search area
Observation / Reading the dog	4	very good; has an overview at all times; can read the dog very well; knows what has been searched
	3	good; mostly has an overview; partly can read the dog well; knows more or less what has been searched
	2	partly loses the overview, but can still read the dog; only partly knows what has been searched
	1	loses the overview; can hardly read the dog; does not know what has been searched
	0	no overview; cannot read the dog; does not know what has been searched
Eager to work/ Search drive	4	very good search behaviour; spirited; very motivated; very eager to work
	3	good search behaviour; mostly motivated; mostly eager to work; stamina decreases a bit
	2	satisfactory search behaviour; partly motivated; partly eager to work; stands; asks; stamina visibly decreases
	1	hardly any search behaviour; motivation is lacking; hardly eager to work; stands a lot; asks a lot; insufficient stamina
	0	no search behaviour; no motivation; not eager to work; no stamina
Agility	4	is very agile; very good mobility in terrain; does not avoid difficulties
	3	is agile; good mobility in terrain; only very rarely avoid difficulties
	2	is partly agile; partly shows deficits in mobility in terrain; partly avoids difficulties
	1	is hardly agile; has great deficits in mobility in terrain; avoids almost all difficulties
	0	is not agile; avoids certain areas; avoids all difficulties
Independence / Controllability	4	is very independent; works mostly on its own drive; lets itself be handled very well (if needed)
	3	is independent; needs to be prompted to continue work every now and then; lets itself be handled well
	2	independence still visible; frequently needs to be prompted to continue work; still lets itself be handled
	1	independence is mostly lacking; always needs to be prompted to continue work; hardly lets itself be handled
	0	independence is lacking; does not do anything on its own drive; does not let itself be handled

IRO MRT-FL Evaluation Key

Evaluation Alerts		
Dog handler	4	supports the dog in a goal-oriented manner and where needed; can show the location of the victim exactly and gives information to the classifiers
Dog		works out the alert independently; dog starts the alert independently and carries out the alert until the end without any deficit; stays at work in a concentrated manner
Dog handler	3	mostly supports the dog in a goal-oriented manner; can show the location of the victim and gives information to the classifiers
Dog		basically works out the alert independently; starts the alert independently and keeps the alerting behaviour rather constantly until the end ; stays at work in a more or less concentrated manner
Dog handler	2	Limitations in the areas of support and observation; cannot sufficiently show the location of the victim; disturbs the dog's alert
Dog		does not stay at work; needs a lot of support; shows the location of the victim only very vaguely; repeatedly interrupts the alerting behaviour
Dog handler	1	DH misses an alert at first but then indicates interest of its dog in a certain area later (at debriefing at latest)
Dog		does not work without support; altering behaviour barely visible; elaboration on the scent barely visible
Dog handler	0	hinders the dog from working; prevents an alert; does not report an alert
Dog		dog does not work; dog does not find

APPENDIX B - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Personal Equipment (PE)

Required standard

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Helmet (EN 397: 2013 / EN 12492: 2012)

All helmets generally used for climbing or in USAR environments that meet the mentioned or equivalent standard are accepted.

- Safety Boots (EN 345 / EN ISO 20345:2004 / EN ISO 20345:2007 / EN ISO 20345:2011)

All boots generally used for mountain tracking (ankle high) or in USAR environments that meet the mentioned or equivalent standard are accepted.

- Gloves

Handlers should wear gloves during area search to protect hands in case of a fall or knock against sharp objects.

- Clothing (EN 471:2003 A1:2007 / EN ISO 20471:2013 (coding for reflective strips))

Handlers should preferably wear an overall that can be removed if it becomes contaminated, it should provide protection against abrasion and preferably be of a high visibility with reflective strips (that meet the mentioned or equivalent standard) for use at night. Long sleeves should always be worn during area search.

Recommended standard

Personal Equipment (PE)

- | | |
|---|--|
| - Documentation handler/dog (waterproof) | - Notebook, pen/pencil |
| - Warm/Waterproof coat/trousers (handler) | - personal documents |
| - Warm/Waterproof jacket (dog) | - Small First Aid Kit (dog/handler) |
| - Hand torch (spare batteries) | - GPS/compass, mapping equipment- 24hr |
| - Ration Pack (handler) | - Dog food (dog) |
| - Bottled water, min. 2L (dog/handler) | - Working harness/identification |
| - Waste/faeces Bags | - Lead |
| - Muzzle | |

APPENDIX C – Public Relation and Commercialisation

The rules of action below have been defined to allow a uniform presentation of the IRO, the hosting NRO and of the event itself in the public and the media.

- IRO Logo

The IRO Logo is provided as word/picture mark in the according file formats for the use within the framework of major IRO events. The files have to be used in the form provided and may not be altered or used for other purposes.

- Utilisation

The use of the IRO logo has generally to be agreed with the IRO and copies of publications where the IRO logo has been used have to be sent to the IRO Office.

The IRO logo has to be placed in a way so that the event can clearly be noticed as IRO event. For this the IRO logo can either be used as stand-alone logo, in combination with the logo of the hosting NRO or with a logo specially designed for the event. If the IRO logo is being used in combination with another logo then the IRO logo – in the same size as the event-/NRO logo – has always to be placed as first logo to the left.

- Area of application

The IRO logo has to be used according to the currently valid Guidelines for the respective IRO event (e.g. invitation, catalogue, start numbers, etc.). In any case the IRO logo has to be placed several times and clearly visible at the central event venue (e.g. stadium). Further the IRO logo should be preferably placed in all other areas of the event as well.

- Communication channels

In order to guarantee a consistent and effective communication the communication means provided by IRO (e.g. specific event websites) as well as the media such as the official IRO Social Media platforms, circular letters and Newsletter have to be used. The implementation and use of additional or complementary communication channels is only possible in accordance with the IRO Office.

- Photo- and video material

Basically the compilation of picture- and video material during the event has to be ensured by the hosting NRO. As possible the picture- and video material has to be provided to IRO for royalty free use within the activities as worldwide umbrella organisation. If this is not possible IRO will arrange the clarification of rights of use directly with the originator.

- Commercial rights of use

Any commercial rights of use (e.g. TV, Online broadcast, etc.) for the event lie with the IRO. The realisation of commercial offers in connection with a major IRO event through the NRO as local host has to be agreed with IRO.

The right for the sales of products and articles (e.g. textiles, means of promotion, etc.) which have been branded with the IRO logo (word/picture mark) lies exclusively with the IRO.