

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR FIELD TRIALS FOR RETRIEVERS ANNEX A

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Rules for the FCI-European Retriever Championship (FCI-ERC)



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Art. 1. – CONSTITUTION

- A. In 2017 the FCI Retriever Commission created an international field trial for Retrievers, called the **“FCI EUROPEAN RETRIEVER CHAMPIONSHIP” (FCI-ERC)**, open for representatives from all FCI members/contract partners and members of The Kennel Club.
- B. This field trial will take place every year, alternately in the participating countries.
- C. Countries which are not able to organize the event on their own territory, may also organize it under the agreement of the relevant society in a host country.

Art. 2. – AIM

The aim of the FCI-ERC is to select dogs which most efficiently and in the style appropriate to their breed, find and retrieve game on a practical shoot. The aim is also to show the differences between the member countries, in particular the great variation in field and game in the different countries and regions in Europe. People taking part in an event of this nature should have already proven their qualities by competing in international field trials (FCI-CACIT).

Art. 3. - TYPE OF COMPETITION

- A. The FCI-ERC is a two-day international field trial for all retriever breeds.
- B. The CACT and the FCI-CACIT will be offered through the organising country.
- C. The field trial will be held according to the **International Regulations for Field Trials for Retrievers**.
- D. Period of organization: during the shooting season of the organising country.
- E. The event is judged by four judges, among whom must be at least one FCI Field Trial Judge. All judges **have to be appointed for Retrievers on the FCI Judges Directory (<https://www.fci.be/en/Judges/>)** or the **Royal Kennel Club (UK)** Official Panel of Field Trial Judges (A or B panel).
- F. “Fair-play” and “fair treatment” should be of first priority in the competition. In questionable situations the judgement should always be to the dog’s advantage.

Art. 4. – ORGANISATION

- A. The FCI Retriever Commission will be responsible for:
- 1) Designating, if possible, at least two years in advance, the country which will be in charge of the organization of European Championship.
 - 2) Taking all the necessary steps for a successful organization of the European Championship.
- B. The host country is responsible for organizing the competition and nominating the judges in consultation with the FCI Retriever Commission.
- C. The invitation has to be sent to the FCI, to the FCI delegates (Commission) and to the national canine organisations.

Art. 5. – QUALIFICATIONS

- A. The host country will decide how many dogs per country may run.
- B. The minimum requirement for a dog representing each country is a FCI-CACIT or a Res- FCI-CACIT, a CACT or res-CACT or at least an "excellent" in an open field trial.

Each country delegates his best and most consistent dog(s). The selection will be based on results obtained on international field trials or open national field trials held in accordance with the FCI regulations or the **Royal** Kennel Club (**UK**) regulations.

The five (5) best results of each dog over the past two (2) full shooting seasons are taken into account. If there are field trials before the deadline of entries for the European Championship, these results **should** be taken into account.

National field trials

- A first place (with "Excellent" if applicable) and ticket towards a national title equals 11 points.
- A second place (with "Excellent" if applicable) equals 9 points
- A third place (with "Excellent" if applicable) equals 8 points
- A fourth place (with "Excellent" if applicable) equals 7 points
- An "Excellent" without a ranking if applicable equals 6 points
- A Diploma or Certificate of Merit or comparable or a "Very Good" equals 4 points
- A qualification "Good" equals 2 points

International field trials (FCI-CACIT)

- FCI-CACIT equals 12 points
- Res-FCI-CACIT equals 10 points
- "3rd Excellent" equals 8 points
- "4th Excellent" equals 7 points
- "Excellent" equals 6 points
- "Very Good" equals 4 points
- "Good" equals 2 points

For the national championship of a country, the same scale as for FCI international field trials can be used, even if the championship itself is not an international field trial.

If two or more dogs have the same number of points, the dog with the highest qualifications (first place, FCI-CACIT, etc...) will be selected. If this does not resolve the ex-aquo, the dog with the most recent results will be selected.

The defending winner of the last FCI-ERC has a fixed run in the following one.

- C. Countries that don't have a qualified dog under the current rules may at least send one dog. If the number of participants is limited, preference will be given to qualified countries.
- D. Nationality:
 - 1) The OWNER and HANDLER must have the nationality of the country for which his/her dog will compete or must have his/her legal residence for a minimum of 12 months in the country for which his/her dog will compete.
 - 2) The DOG must have been registered with the studbook or appendix to the studbook of the national organisation for which it will compete for a minimum of 12 months.

Art. 6. – ENTRIES

All entries have to be confirmed by the national delegates and have to reach the organising society at least 2 weeks before the date of the FCI-ERC.

Art. 7. – PRIZES

The Winner will get the title "FCI-European Retriever Champion *year*". The original Cup for the winning dog will be presented at each event and the name of the dog and the handler will be engraved in the Cup. Other prizes will be provided by the organising country.

The English version of these regulations is the authentic text.

The changes in bold and italic characters were approved by the FCI General Committee, on the occasion of its meeting in Thuin (BE), 19-20 March 2024 and Amsterdam; 3-4 September 2024.