



1. Controlling Rules

The championship will be judged in accordance with the FCI Rules which become applicable from the time you turn in your scorebook:

<http://www.fci.be/en/Utility-Dogs-58.html>

However, due to COVID-19 concerns:

- there will be **no** padded stick transfer in Phase C. The helper will retain the padded stick so there is no need to request he surrender it;
- no handshakes with judge at check in or checkout in phase a, b and c (the judges agreed that this will be the normal protocol and will not be looked upon negatively); and
- handlers may utilize their own dumbbells provided that they meet the requirements in terms of weight and dimensions (see FCI-IGP rules above). If you will opt for this, contact Joe or Lindsay.

2. Trial Chairs

The trial co-chairs are Joe and Lindsay Brockington.

3. Training Vests

No training vests may be worn while competing in the stadium.

4. Apparel

Please dress knowing this is a championship and you are representing the AWDF and your AWDF member club. We understand it will be hot out so of course, please take that into consideration as well.

5. Weather Monitoring

We will be utilizing the airline standard of 82 degrees to assess hot weather conditions and in consultation with veterinarians. The heat, lighting and strong winds will be grounds for changing the schedule but rain will not be.

6. Judges' Decisions/Scores

The judges' decisions are final. Any concerns you have should be brought to the attention of the Trial Chairs or the Coordinating Judge, Amanda Hoskinson of DVG-LV America.

7. Respect for the Nature of This Competition As A Test Of Our Training and Our Canine Partner

The judges, helpers, tracklayers and volunteers will be attended to by assigned staff, and dinner arrangements have already been made for each evening. No competitor should fraternize with a judge or judges until the commencement of the awards ceremony to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. We understand, however, that all are adults and need not accept the invitation of the hosts and need not abide by our desired protocol. We understand that this mindset is severe, attenuated and analogous to the sequestering of a jury during a trial BUT that is the extent of the respect we have for true competition. Our respect for true competition evinces our respect for each and every competitor.

8. Tracking Crew

A Zoom meeting amongst the tracking judge, tracking coordinator, tracklayers and administrators will take place on June 23rd. This is to ensure uniformity of tracks, etc. We do know that articles will be placed in the footstep and the footstep will be no different from other footsteps. This meeting is basically for everyone to meet each other and the FCI rules are really your best source of information. You may of course ask questions of the Phase A judge at the Draw. We truly appreciate Judge Oblikas taking the time to judge our trial. Judge Oblikas is scheduled to judge the IGP FH World Championship. It is worthy to note that Judge Oblikas requested to judge tracking and he wants **all** of us to do well and for those who have put in the effort to study the nuances and rules and who have put in the time, the opportunity to shine amongst us.

9. Event Staff

All AWDF staff thank you for treating them with courtesy and your full cooperation. They are not trying to inconvenience you and may be trying to ensure on-deck competitors have a clear path, etc. They have volunteered their time to assist all of us. Thank you.

10. Dogs That Are Not Entered In The Competition

No non-entered dog in the stadium or within 30 yards from the competition fields in fairness to the competitors. [The only exception for the](#)

entire championship time period is dogs of volunteers such as tracklayers, the group, tryout dogs, etc. for the duration of the event. This will be enforced. This championship is indeed about the dogs but in particular, the dogs that are entered. We cannot risk any mishaps. A mishap occurred at a Regional Event in Pennsylvania and the competitor and his dog were penalized even though the other dog was not competing and had no business rushing on to the field!

11. Microchip

The Microchip will be checked after each phase.

12. Competitors In The Same Car or Handling Two Dogs

Competitors in the same car will be in the same flight; the 2 competitors must designate one person to draw at the draw. If an odd number is picked such as 1-1 then the other competitor in the same car will automatically get 1-7. If an even number is picked such as 1-2, then the other competitor in the same car automatically gets 1-8. The point is we make the “most distance” between them we can as an accommodation. This is the same for people who compete with two dogs. They too are automatically in the same flight and the one pick establishes the other’s order as above. Please notify Joe or Lindsay IMMEDIATELY if you are travelling in the same car. Thank you.

For tracking, for people in the same car, there is no accommodation.

Everyone just picks in accordance to catalog order for placement within tracking.

But for one competitor with two dogs, the accommodation transfers to tracking also, so the person with tracking picks first, and picks again so there is at least 3 competitors in between. So if K picks 3 (s)he picks until (s)he gets 7 or 8. The competitor cannot opt to try again **once the first acceptable draw placement** for tracking is reached. This is the most random way we can do this.

13. Entry to the Field For Phase B

In an attempt to provide equal trial conditions, there will be two ways to enter the field for obedience. One entrance is closer to the starting point and the other is closer to the long down area. We have created this to ensure both teams have an equal opportunity to warm up their dogs, without disturbing the other team. We do not want to create a situation, where the team that gets there first has an advantage. This will become clear to you when you practice.

14. Judging Assignments

As mentioned above, **Aivo Oblikas**, of Estonia, will be judging Phase A (Tracking). Judge Oblikas requested this phase and he will be judging the IGP FH World Championship in the Fall. We truly thank him for taking the time to visit us and to impart knowledge based on his experience and expertise. Please peruse Aivo's curriculum vitae on the championship website.

Andras Benke of Hungary is judging Phase B, (Obedience). Judge Benke's qualifications are also equally impressive and we look forward to his assessment of our obedience routines.

Protection To Be Judged Via **The FMBB** and **Ray Carlisle-Carlos Rojas' Masters World Championships** Platforms: We are honored and extremely thankful that Judges **Amanda Hoskinson, Joel Monroe** and **James Akin Otiko**, listed in alphabetic order, have indulged and accepted our esoteric request to judge protection via a **Tripartite Platform**. The individual qualifications of all of these judges are quite substantive with Joel and James' replete experience with trial and training helper work prior to their being sanctioned as judges and Amanda's presence as a judge at many national championships and an event abroad in the Netherlands, where her fellow judge was Robbie De Jong.

In short, the score for protection will be determined as follows:

The score will be the middle or majority score and all judges will judge independently just like at the FMBB and Masters World Championships.

A steward will be told the scores and identify the middle or majority score (meaning two judges having the same assessment).

If the middle score is utilized because there are three different scores, the judge who issued the middle score will give the critique.

If the majority score is utilized (meaning two judges have the same score), critiques will be given on a rotational basis as kept count by the Steward.

Since Amanda has the most seniority amongst the three judges for this phase, we have asked her to serve as Coordinating Judge. The major function of this role is to ensure our honored guest judges from abroad have no concerns and that the Apprentice Judges (**Natalia Balabanov** and **Dana Miller** of the AWMA) have an opportunity to learn from all 5 judges.

*The flights represent approximate times to be used by handlers for planning purposes only. All times are approximate and the tracking times are purely for illustrative and planning purposes as the order will be determined by a draw at the fields, once the tracks have been laid, **and not at the parking lot** followed by a drive to the tracking grounds. Tracklayers will not reveal the pattern to anyone. Assistants to handlers will not be able to traverse a certain boundary (designated point) since we do not want savvy assistants marking the last corner, etc. inadvertently. Please cooperate with event staff regarding this requirement to ensure the integrity of Phase A. We expect to provide a break time after the 4th team prior to the 5th commencing. Please see the separate document for the flights /schedules, etc.*

ADVERTISEMENT

Helpers Who Are Interested In Working the RSV2000 U.S. Qualifier of the WGSDPA Nationals are asked to please send a video of you working a dog for the IPG 3 routine (actual trial video preferred but not required) and a synopsis of your experience to deanoftha@gmail.com. The entire faculty of THA will select (vote) from amongst the entered helpers by July 23rd so please enter at your earliest possible convenience. 4 Helpers Will be selected. Prerequisite is One national championship worked or 3 regionals or 100 dogs, whichever is less.



Helmut Raiser



Dirk Edler

Other judges to be announced soon. Thank you.

**EXCEL SHEET CONTAINS FURTHER FLIGHT INFO ON SEPARATE SHEET
THANK YOU.**