

# ICF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

## RACE RULES

Revision date: 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025

2025 Updates in **YELLOW**



## **Table of Contents**

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL	5
1.1 General Provisions	5
1.2 Finances	5
1.3. The Articles of Association	6
1.4. Disciplinary Procedure	6
CHAPTER 2: PHILOSOPHY	7
CHAPTER 3: ANIMAL WELFARE	7
3.1. The Five Freedoms for Animals	7
3.2. Additional Welfare Measures	8
CHAPTER 4: EVENTS	9
4.2. Nationality	9
4.3 Application	9
4.4. Registration Procedure	10
4.5. Deadlines	11
4.6. Registration fees	11
4.7. Medals	12
4.8. Formal Ceremonies	12
CHAPTER 5: GENERAL TECHNICAL RULES	13
5.1. Timing / Chrono	13
5.2. Race Numbers (Bib Numbers)	14
5.3. Trail	14
5.4. Trail Marking	15
5.5. Inspection of the trails	15
5.6. Departures	15
5.7. Calling Chamber	17
5.8. Finish	18
5.9. Official information panel	19
CHAPTER 6: ORGANISER'S OBLIGATIONS	20
6.1. ICF	20
6.2. Veterinary	20
6.3. Obligations of the Organiser towards the Technical Commission	20
6.4. Competitors	21

6.5. First Aid	21
6.6. Security	22
6.7. Souvenirs	22
6.8. Clean up	22
6.9. General Data Protection Regulation	22
CHAPTER 7: VETERINARY	23
7.1. Veterinary	23
CHAPTER 8: DISCIPLINES, CATEGORIES	24
8.1. Bike-Joëring	24
8.2. Scooter with 1 dog	24
8.3. Canicross	25
8.4. ELITE	26
8.5. RELAY	26
8.6. GENERAL RULES – CATEGORIES, DISCIPLINES	26
8.7. Chronological order of the starts:	28
CHAPTER 9: BIKE-JOËRING	29
9.1. General Provisions	29
9.2. Categories	29
9.3. Competitors' Obligations	29
9.4. Equipment in Bike-Joëring Categories	30
CHAPTER 10: SCOOTER	31
10.1. General Provisions	31
10.2. Categories	31
10.3. Competitors' Obligations	32
CHAPTER 11: CANICROSS	33
11.1. General Information for all the Canicross Categories	33
11.2. Canicross Adults and Juniors	34
11.3. Canicross Young Boys/Girls, Cadets Boys/Girls:	34
11.4. Canicross School Boys/ Girls	35
CHAPTER 12: RELAY – CANICROSS	36
12.1. Relay – Canicross	36
12.2. Who May Run the Relay for Title	36
12.4. Starts of Relay	37
12.5. Chronological Order:	37

12.6. Relay Mixed Discipline – Canicross-Scooter- Bike-Joëring	37
CHAPTER 13: TECHNICAL COMMISSION	38
13.1. Composition of the Technical Commission:	38
13.2. Expertise of the Technical Commission:	39
13.3. Mode of Operation:	40
CHAPTER 14: LODGING OF COMPLAINTS (OR PROTESTS)	40
14.1. Lodging Complaints (or Protests)	40
CHAPTER 15: PENALISATION	42
15.1. – General Provisions	42
15.2. – Penal Measures	42
15.3. Penalties List	43
CHAPTER 16: DOPING	46
16.1. General Provisions	46
16.2. General provisions of the doping control	46
16.3. Right of Appeal	47
16.4. The Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE)	47
16.5. Anti-Doping Rules (Human Athletes)	47
16.6. Anti-Doping Rules (Dogs)	48
CHAPTER 17: INSURANCE	50
17.1. Insurances	50
CHAPTER 18: FINAL STIPULATIONS	50
18.1. Translation	50
Appendix No. 1 Example reference 2025:	51
Appendix No. 2 Proposal of the Model Timetable	52
Appendix No. 3 Additional meals list and Stake Out Vehicle fee	53

# CHAPTER 1: GENERAL

## 1.1 General Provisions

1.1.1. The name of the federation shall be the International Canicross Federation, also known as ICF. The registered office of the ICF is established at Switzerland.

1.1.2. The federation shall have perpetual existence as a non-profit federation under its federation name. The federation acquires legal personality from the date of recognition.

1.1.3. The International Canicross Federation (hereinafter referred to as “ICF”) is an independent and voluntary union of members, being the legally, property and organization independent legal entities, the main activities of which include pursuit and organization of sports activities related to individual mushing disciplines.

- a) Canicross
- b) Bike-Joëring
- c) Scooter 1 dog
- d) Relays

1.1.4 The basic symbols of ICF include the logo and the flag of the ICF. The ICF members are entitled – and in some cases obliged – to use the ICF logo and flag to identify their events organized under the name of the ICF. When using the ICF flag and logo, the ICF members are obliged to follow the internal regulations of ICF and in case of logo also the relevant graphic manual including legal regulations related to copyrights and industrial property rights protection.

## 1.2 Finances

### 1.2.1 General Provisions

1.2.1.1 The ICF shall be financially bound, within the limits of the approved budget, by the signature of the President and Vice-President.

1.2.1.2 The financial records of the ICF shall be audited annually by two auditors elected from among the members. The report shall be presented to and approved by the General Assembly following the fiscal year closing.

1.2.1.3 The ICF can take some of the expenses for its account, but the expenses of the ICF must be at the service of EVERY nation, and not beneficial for only one.

1.2.1.4 All members of the ICF shall pay an annual membership fee.

1.2.1.5 The euro (€) is the official currency of the ICF.

## **1.2.2. Finances of the World-Championships**

1.2.2.1 The costs of the World-Championships organization bears the organizing country. If it is to be otherwise, the specific situation must be solved at the ICF general meeting.

1.2.2.2 The organising country of the World Championships will make propositions regarding:

- a) Expenses for the registration fees of the World Championships (see article 4.5.4.).
- b) Expenses for the meals  
Note: The price of the registration fee contains 1 **festive** meal for the competitor.
- c) The present offered to the competitors. The registration fee includes a present for the competitor.
- d) Later, the expenses of stake out accommodation with mention of the offer.
- e) Separate benefits
- f) Global offer (full or partial package).

1.2.2.3 The final decision regarding the expenses mentioned above will be made at the spring General Assembly preceding the event.

1.2.2.4 The costs for food and drinks of the 2 General Assemblies (spring and autumn) will be supported by the organising country. Accommodation and other costs lie within full authority of individual delegations (participants) unless the organizing country sets otherwise.

## **1.3. The Articles of Association**

1.3.1. "Articles of Association" as the basic document of the organization deals with the structure of organization, matters related to membership and other organization matters related to the ICF functioning itself.

1.3.2. French and English are the official languages of the organization. The organization is obliged to use the languages for communication with its members in all and any written documents and also at the meetings held under the organization heading.

## **1.4. Disciplinary Procedure**

1.4.1 Disciplinary procedure imposed by an affiliated federation of the ICF to one of its members:

- a) If a nation takes a sanction against one of his members, it must inform all the nations of the ICF.
- b) An excluded member of his national federation may not enter the World Championships via another federation.
- c) An excluded member of his national federation and of the ICF competitions has the right of appeal at the Disciplinary Commission of the ICF. If he wants to be heard this will be at his own expense. A disciplinary commission will be formed to judge on the appeal. The nation which has given the sanction cannot be part of the commission.

## **CHAPTER 2: PHILOSOPHY**

2.1. The World Championship is a place where elite athletes and simple amateurs can meet. Every athlete is accepted if they are registered by their national secretariat using the official document « Entry Form » and if there are met all the conditions for participation of a person according to these Rules.

2.2 The event must take place in a warm, sympathetic, and friendly atmosphere.

2.3. In the races there must be a good competition spirit, Fair Play being the most important value.

2.4. Every athlete will run with the dog he has and loves. No pedigree is mandatory. Without our four-legged companions, the practice of this sport, which gives us so much pleasure, would be impossible. As a result, the dog will be thanked and the respect towards the dog will be our GOLDEN RULE! Partnership must reign between a human and a dog.

2.5. If elite athletes and simple amateurs shall meet – the trail should be that both groups can manage it.

2.6. The dog will not be the only one making the effort. The effort will be shared by the human and the dog.

## **CHAPTER 3: ANIMAL WELFARE**

### **3.1. The Five Freedoms for Animals**

3.1.1 The Five Freedoms are internationally accepted standards of care that affirm every living being's right to humane treatment.

3.1.2 The Five Freedoms ensure that we meet the mental and physical needs of animals in our care:

a) Freedom from hunger and thirst by ready access to fresh water and diet to maintain health and vigour. This must be specific to the animal. For example, puppies, adult dogs, pregnant dogs, and senior dogs all need different types of food provided on different schedules.

b) Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area. This means you should provide soft bedding and an area with appropriate temperature, noise levels, and access to natural light. If an animal is outside, it must have shelter from the elements as well as appropriate food and water bowls that will not freeze or tip over.

c) Freedom from pain, injury, or disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment. This includes vaccinating animals, monitoring animals, physical health, treating any injuries and providing appropriate medications.

d) Freedom to express normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities, and company of the animal's own kind. Animals need to be able to interact with — or avoid — others of their own kind as desired. They must be able to stretch every part of their body (from nose to

tail), and run, jump, and play. This can be particularly challenging when animals are housed in individual kennels.

e) Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering. The mental health of an animal is just as important as its physical health — as psychological stress can quickly transition into physical illness. These conditions can be achieved by preventing overcrowding and providing sufficient enrichment and safe hiding spaces.

### **3.2. Additional Welfare Measures**

Supplementary to the various animal welfare measures as per the rules and procedures, the following rules apply:

3.2.1 All competitors shall guarantee and be responsible for the welfare of their dogs.

3.2.2. Rule offences shall be corrected immediately, with the race rule being decisive (dog abuse = disqualification)

3.2.3. All means of transportation for dogs shall guarantee protection against the weather (temperature, wind, rain etc.) as well as against exhaust gasses. A sufficient supply of fresh air and a good air circulation shall be present.

3.2.4. For the safety of dogs always dog boxes are to be preferred. In case of more than 2 dogs, the animals shall be transported in boxes. These shall be well and safely constructed, preventing escape and/or injury of the dogs.

3.2.5. Since dogs vary in size, the dimensions of the boxes are not strictly laid down. However, for safety reasons boxes shall be neither too small nor too large. The box shall be large enough for the dog(s) to stretch out, stand up, turn around and to curl up. Inside the boxes, the dogs shall not be chained.

3.2.6 The boxes shall be clean and dry. Hay or straw shall be fresh and dry. If other material is used it shall be dry and such as it cannot harm the dogs. Dogs shall never be unattended for a long period in their boxes.

3.2.7 Stake out and other tie-on means shall be so constructed that comfort and some freedom of movement is guaranteed. It shall be possible for the individual dog to lie down. It is not allowed to let the dog alone at the stake out.

3.2.8 The chain/cable at which the dog is fastened shall never be so long that they could create dangerous situations for the dogs like tangling with another dog or even suffocation.

3.2.9 All material shall be in good condition preventing possible injury.

3.2.10. It is forbidden to fix any object that makes noise or any kind of bell to the dog.

3.2.11. Respect towards the dog. This is golden rule which is the most important. In addition to all preceding articles, the competitor must accept losing time if during the competition the dog has the desire to drink, refresh or has to make a sanitary stop. In case of the competitor not to act in compliance with this rule, he /she will be penalised.

## CHAPTER 4: EVENTS

4.1.1 These rules must be applied at all ICF events.

4.1.2. The World Championships (WCh's) are sled dog competitions by which ICF grants the title "World Champion" to the winners of each of the World Championship categories as defined in these rules.

4.1.3. Only events organised according to these rules shall be recognized by ICF and its Members as World Championships.

4.1.4. The World Championships should be held every year.

4.1.5. The official name of the event is « World Championship Canicross, Bike-Joëring and scooter ». The name « Worldcanicross » are not allowed. In fact, the winner of the championship is titled « World Champion » and is therefore not just a winner of a nice race somewhere in Europe or Worldwide.

4.1.6. The World-Championships will be held on **the third or fourth complete weekend of October**. In exceptional cases another date can be accepted but it must be published at least 1 year in advance. When countries put in a proposal to host an event, they can propose a 3-day event and a specific and updated schedule of the Competition.

### 4.2. Nationality

4.2.1 Each competitor has the obligation to compete for the country of his nationality. If a competitor lives or is affiliated in a foreign country, he must register via the document « Entry form » of his country. He will be advised to contact the secretary of his country before the closure date of the registrations.

4.2.2. In case of double nationality, the competitor **MUST** choose the nation for which he wants to compete, this choice will be for the rest of his career.

### 4.3 Application

4.3.1 Any national Member Federation having competitors with interest in the World Championships can submit an application to host a World Championships.

4.3.2 The candidature of the country which wants to organise the World Championship must be submitted 2 years in advance, at the Fall General Assembly. The choice of the organising country will be voted by all the attending nations. This candidate country must submit a candidature document during the General Assembly.

4.3.3 When there is a default in the candidature, another country member of the ICF may be chosen.

4.3.4 For the Obligations of the event organiser, see the [chapter 6.1](#)

## 4.4. Registration Procedure

4.4.1. Every nation will register their athletes who wish to participate at the World Championship, by their own criteria of admission (selection and/or invitation).

The registrations will be transmitted to the ICF using the official document « entry form ». The entry forms will be put online and will be available for every nation as described in the chapter “4.5 Deadlines”, mentioning the bank details for the payment of the amount for the registrations. Every nation must register their athletes with the official document « Entry Form », which must be sent to the ECF secretary within the prescribed time.

4.4.2. The starting list of the World Championships will be linked to the results of the competitors of the previous year, to avoid slow competitors from finding themselves in front of the fastest ones. The team Manager or a representative of national organisation will supply the selection and grants a ranking to each athlete (number 1 for the quickest ones or number 2 for the slowest). The drawing by lot will be within each ranking. This point will be included on the entry form. This list will be published and transmitted to the organiser.

4.4.3. Only athletes who have a licence in a country member of the ICF are allowed to participate.

4.4.4 The way of payment is at the responsibility of the organising country.

4.4.5 Reminder:

a) No athlete may register individually, he/she must register via his/her national secretariat.

b) The document « entry form », must be sent exclusively to the ICF secretariat (not to the organising country).

c) The athletes of a nation that would not be in order with the affiliation of the ICF (non-payment of the annual fee) will not be accepted to participate at the World Championship.

d) A country that is not affiliated with the ICF, may participate at the World-Championship with the status of « guest country ». This only possible for 1 year. This nation will be also invited at the General Assembly for the first year but has not the right to vote. The admission as a member country will be put on the agenda of the next fall General Assembly, provided that this nation presents its candidature for admission. If it concerns a very small country without real extension opportunities, the athlete(s) will ask the ICF for a “wild card” allowing him (them) to be admitted to take part in the race and attend the meeting without voting right.  
**Athletes of a “guest country” or “Wild Card” cannot be Titled as “World Champion”.**

4.4.6 The total amount of competitors entering the races, all categories taken together, may not be higher than 800. It depends mainly on the organising country’s preliminary decision. The space options must be considered. The final decision on the number of starts could be decided on at the Spring General Assembly after inspecting the venue, especially the trail.

## 4.5. Deadlines

ENTRY FORM			
Information	From	Delivery	Deadline
Organiser's Bank Coordinates	Organising Nation	By e-mail to ICF	1 Week before Spring GA
Provisional Athletes number divided by Bike, scooter, canicross (adult, children and adapted) and number of second start	Each Nation	By e-mail to ICF	1 week Before the Spring GA
Publication	Organising Nation	By e-mail to Nations	At the Spring GA
FINAL Athletes number (to pay) divided by Bike, scooter, canicross (adult, children and adapted) and number of second start	Each Nation	By e-mail to the ICF	1 <sup>st</sup> of August
Payment of Entry Fees	Each Nation	By e-mail to ICF	1 <sup>st</sup> of August
Submission of Final Entry FORM	Each Nation	By e-mail to ICF	until 10 <sup>th</sup> of September
Submission of Vet Documents and IDs of Competitors	Each Nation	By e-mail to ICF	20 <sup>th</sup> of September
Publications of List of Athletes	ICF	On ICF Website, social media and by e-mail to the Nations	20 <sup>th</sup> of September
Publication of the Start list	ICF	On ICF Website, social media and by e-mail to the Nations	30 <sup>th</sup> of September

## 4.6. Registration fees

### 4.6.1 The registration fee may not exceed<sup>1</sup>:

- **100 €** for 1 start for an adult (canicross or bike or scooter)
- **80 €** for a second start for an adult (canicross + bike / canicross + scooter / bike + scooter)
- **65 €** for 1 start for a kid
- 20 € per additional relay team, taking into account that every nation has the right to register 1 team « men » and 1 team « women ».
- 10 € fee for each vehicle on the stake-out for the entire weekend (for daily or night stay) showers and toilets are available

### 4.6.2. In case of an absence, even justified, NO refund will be given (meals, entrance fees, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> Decision taken in Fall GA 2024 in Italy. Increase will include 5€ for Vet team, 10€ for committee and & Judges, 5€ from each adult to ICF, 2€ from each child to ICF

## 4.7. Medals

4.7.1 The ICF will choose the medals or will give proxy to the organising country to provide the medals. These will be « standing ».

- a) On the medals will be mentioned (in German, French or English):
  - World Championship ICF
  - The year
  - The name of the organising country and/or the name of the city where the event is being held.
- b) The medals will be in any case at the expenses of the organiser. The organising country will must submit the choice of the medals for approval at the spring general assembly taking place before the race.
- c) The first 3 of every official category will receive a medal (gold – silver – bronze). In addition to the medals, the organiser may provide diplomas.
- a) The organiser will hang out the list of results per category maximum 30 minutes after the end of the concerned race.

## 4.8. Formal Ceremonies

4.8.1 The ceremonies are undeniably special moments of the Championships. They must therefore take a solemn aspect: presence of the local authorities, former champions, the President of the Organisation, and the office of the ICF (President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of the Technical Commission). A few brief speeches will be delivered by various speakers presented on the podium.

4.8.2 The Organisation will ensure a solemn staging: music, flags gathered on stage and other necessary matters needed for appropriate performance of the ceremony.

4.8.3. It must be considered that in case of bad weather everything can be held in a room or tent that is big enough for everyone.

4.8.4. Only the official national flag of a country is allowed. A regional or club flag will not be tolerated on the podiums of the official ceremonies or during the parade of the athletes.

### 4.8.5 Opening Ceremony

- a) This Ceremony will be held on Friday in the late afternoon or in the evening. This ceremony must have some local folklore and/or a tourist touch.
- b) The ceremony will be opened by carrying out the flag of the ICF by a member of the organising country followed by the authorities. Afterwards the athletes by nation in alphabetical order will follow in the parade behind their national flag preceded by a board mentioning the name of the country. The organising country will be the last country of the parade. All the flags will be reunited on the stage.
- c) The mayor or another local authority and the President of the ICF will give a short speech: welcoming everyone – wishing success to all the participants – thanking.

- d) The president of the organisation will present his team.
- e) The designated person will open officially the event in the language of the country, in French and in English (which are the 2 official languages of the ICF): « I declare open the World Championships of canicross, Bike-Joëring and scooter (+ year and place) ».
- f) Hearing of the Event anthem (“Ode of Joy”, Music from the last movement of the Ninth Symphony by Ludwig van Beethoven).
- g) This ceremony is expected to be completed with a welcome drink (glass of friendship).

#### 4.8.6 Closing Ceremony

- a) The organising country must ensure that the awards ceremony of the podiums and closure (which is an integral part of the Championships) will take place immediately after the publication of the «official» results.
- b) The announcement of the results will be given per category, handing out the three medals (gold, silver and bronze) - the national flag of the 3 winners will be raised- the national anthem of the champion will be played.
- c) Award winning athletes must be present, except in case of force major (Ex. hospital...)
- d) In case of the World Champions, at the end, all the World Champions (categories + elite categories) will reunite on stage and the Event anthem will be played.
- e) The event will be officially closed by a present authority – short speech.
- f) The President of the organisation will hand over the flag to the ICF President, who will give the flag to the organising nation of the next edition.

## CHAPTER 5: GENERAL TECHNICAL RULES

### 5.1. Timing / Chrono

- 5.1.1 Taking the time of every participant is mandatory. The used method must be reliable and undisputable.
- 5.1.2. A double timing is mandatory, it can be done by video camera or manual chrono.
- 5.1.3. The timing will be taken on the starting line and on the finish line.
- 5.1.4. The timing must be done by using « electronic chips » fixed, according to the guidelines of the timing team, on the bib-numbers or on the chest of the tissue bib-number, on the ankle or on the shoe of the competitor, on the dog’s collar or harness.
- 5.1.5. In case it comes to the last sprint before finishing, it will be the nose of the dog that is taken into consideration for the ranking, not the time by timing.
- 5.1.6. Timing on other parts of the trail is not required.
- 5.1.7. The starting and finishing lines must be in a visible zone.

## 5.2. Race Numbers (Bib Numbers)

5.2.1 The organising country must provide the bib-numbers. They must be resistant (should not tear). The bib numbers may also be made of fabric. No sticker bib-numbers allowed.

5.2.2. The bib-numbers must be firmly fixed on the chest.

5.2.3. For Bike-Joëring and Scooter, a hard frame plate must also be used and mounted in a clearly visible place.

## 5.3. Trail

5.3.1 The trail must be attractive, located in an environment with a lot of trees and if possible, on a wonderful place. The trail must be appealing to both the humans and the dogs. Alternating between easy running/riding parts on larger and long stretches, technical parts on single tracks.... Every type of dog should get his advantage on some parts of the trail.

5.3.2 Dangerous parts, that are too narrow, with big stones and roots should be avoided.

5.3.3 The organiser must ensure that the soil of the trail is not abrasive for the dog's paws. **Asphalt must not exceed 10% of the course and is prohibited at the Start.<sup>2</sup>**

5.3.4. The organiser must choose the trails in such a way that the soil must remain in good condition in every situation: it should be assessed by every weather condition, even in case of heavy rainfall without risking degeneration.

5.3.5. The trail for bike-joëring and scooter: like in canicross, the trail should alternate between « technical » parts and « easier » parts. Ensure that the trail does not get too dangerous for the humans and for the dogs. If this is the case, the bike-joëring trail may be slightly different from the canicross trail to avoid technical zones. This will be at the responsibility of the organiser which has to make sure to do their best to preserve the physical integrity of the competitors and their dogs.

5.3.6. In case of pouring rain, the organiser or the Technical Commission may close the trails for inspection by the athletes to preserve the quality of the terrain.

5.3.7. No dog may run free on the trails even in the authorised period for trail inspection (before, during and after the competitions). If there is a dog on the trail, he will be identified and excluded from the whole of the World championships. The same rule applies to the competitor who is registered with the concerned dog.

5.3.8. In case of not respecting the official trail (error in direction, taking short cut... etc) the competitor will be penalised following the report of the commissioners. In case the competitor involuntary takes a longer route, the Technical Commission can decide to not penalise the competitor. If a competitor leaves the circuit due to force major, The Technical Commission will decide.

---

<sup>2</sup> **Decision taken by the ICF Steering Committee**

## 5.4. Trail Marking

5.4.1. Procedure to be followed when there is a change of direction, using directional arrows on a piquet:

« Warning » when change of direction, +/- 20 m in advance (a red target or arrows at the side of the direction change)

« Indicate » at the place where there is a change of direction.

« Confirm » the direction after the change (blue target or arrow or banner / plastic bands)

5.4.2. Technical parts (a sharp curve, a stone, a steep incline, a hollow...) should be marked with a yellow target or exclamation marks.

5.4.3. On long straight parts of the trail some bands must be placed to confirm the direction of the trail.

5.4.4. You can also use neutral-coloured bands or bands with sponsors over the whole trail.

## 5.5. Inspection of the trails

5.5.1 The inspection/recognition of the trail with a dog is authorised until 1 hour before the first departure of the first race. One hour after the last departure of the last race the trail will be open again for inspection. Unless the Technical Commissions sets otherwise (e.g., due to bad weather – trail damage). No dog, even attached with his leash is allowed on the trail during the race and outside the period mentioned before (even if the dog is from a supporter and not running in the event).

5.5.2. The trail has to be completely marked before the opening of the trail for competitors 14.00 h on Thursday.

5.5.3. In case of breaching the specified rules of the trail inspection, the competitor will be penalized.

## 5.6. Departures

### 5.6.2. General Provisions

5.6.2.1. Starting order: the starting order per discipline is as follows: 1 scooter – 2 bike-joëring – 3 canicross.

5.6.2.2. For every category the competitor **AND** his dog must be behind the starting line.

5.6.2.3. A banner « Start » is mandatory.

5.6.2.4. The starter will give the start signal. He may be assisted by a sound clock.

5.6.2.5. Once the starting line is crossed, all the race rules apply.

5.6.2.6. A competitor who is not present for his departure, according to the official schedule and after he has been called may no longer start and will be eliminated = disqualification.

5.6.2.7. The organising country has to try to provide a possible timetable for competitors who are registered in 2 categories (canicross + bike-joëring).

5.6.2.8. One same competitor **cannot take part in all 3 categories**. He therefore can only compete in 2 categories. The relays are not taken into consideration in this number.

5.6.2.9. The Championships currently have 2 types of departures: individual starts for canicross on Saturday and mass starts (or alternatives) for canicross on Sunday. Individual start for bike-joëring and scooter on Saturday and on Sunday. In case of individual start on Sunday, the starts will be given per Discipline but starting with the fastest time and ending with the slowest time. The starts can be given every 30 seconds or 1 minutes or another, according to the choice of the organiser and the consent of the Technical Commission. The start in the disciplines is only by time, that means, the fastest starts first, never mind the age or if man or woman.

5.6.2.10. If the competitor is not present at the hour of his start, the sanction will be given (Missed departures). The competitor will be disqualified.

### **5.6.3. Individual Starts**

5.6.3.1. The starts for bike-joëring and scooter may be given every minute or every 30 seconds. The starts for canicross may be given every minute or every 30 or 15 seconds. The individual starts are of the type « against the clock ». The interval between start should be defined according to the resolution of the organiser and with the approval of the Technical Commission. The starts may also be given in pairs (2 by 2): each competitor individually in his corridor (so there must be 2 corridors).

5.6.3.2. The starting list, mentioning the departure time of each participant, will be placed on the official information panel so that the competitors know in advance the exact start time.

a) On Saturday, they will be given in order of the bib-numbers.

b) On Sunday, starts will be given by discipline in order of the realised time on Saturday, from the fastest to the slowest, in each discipline.

### **5.6.4. Mass Starts**

5.6.4.1. On Sunday, starts will be given by discipline in order of the realised time on Saturday, from the fastest to the slowest, in each discipline.

5.6.4.2. Mass start can be allowed, after inspecting the trail, at the spring general assembly preceding the championship, through a vote to decide whether the mass start will be safe or not.

5.6.4.3. Mass starts can be allowed only for Canicross, except for School, Young and Cadets Categories, only if all safety conditions are granted (width and length of the starting area and individual protection, for example with nets over a sufficient length. For this type of start, it is mandatory to have a starting area of at least 50 metres wide, the zone where all competitors come close together on a smaller trail must be at least 100 metres after the starting line. After this 100 m long stretch it is advised to avoid a 90° turn, so participants will not fall and there is less chance that they get tangled up with the dogs.

5.6.4.4. If the terrain cannot permit to have a mass start due to lack of space, the departures may be held in waves or individual (as specified in 5.6.3.1.). The starting time and competitors of each wave must be mentioned on the official information panel. The Type of departure (mass, wave or individual) will be decided by vote at the spring General Assembly preceding the championship.

## 5.7. Calling Chamber

5.7.1 The calling chamber is a zone surrounded with barriers which precedes the starting area. It has to be big enough, so the dogs have some space to breath. There will be water containers available to refresh and hydrate the dogs.

5.7.2 The competitor must be present in the calling chamber 10 minutes before the official start. Dog can be brought into the starting area at least as soon as the team must enter in the 'racing lane'. Once they have entered the calling chamber they can no longer get out. They will be at the disposition of the starter. Several controls can still be made before the competitor enters the chamber or even inside the calling chamber.

5.7.3. The school girls/boys, young boys/girls, **cadets boys/girls<sup>3</sup>**, the bike-joëring competitors and scooter competitors may be assisted by their « assistant » - only one.

5.7.4. The organiser must provide a calling chamber and a control service which tasks are:

- a) Identifying the dogs by reading the electronic chip or legible tattoo.
- b) Inspection of the harness (it may not injure the dog)
- c) Verification of the length of the leash (max. 2,0 or 2,5 m when fully extended)
- d) Checking the running shoes: No spike shoes (in case of shoe spikes to be used, the competitor will be penalised in compliance with these rules).
- e) They must ensure that the bib-number and the electronic chip are correctly fixed on the chest of the competitor and that they are visible.

5.7.5. Once in the calling chamber it is forbidden to leave. If there is any problem with equipment (harness, carabine ...) another (third) person may go and look for it and pass it through the fence.

5.7.6. A Team Manager can put in the starting zone "Calling Chamber", 'approved' race equipment to compensate for a breakage of last minute.

---

<sup>3</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

## 5.8. Finish

5.8.1. This area must be handled with care to make it attractive and memorable.

5.8.2. This area is often very crowded. As a result, there must be provided:

- a) Metal barriers for at least 20-50 m on every side.
- b) Visible finish line.
- c) Banners with sponsors, partners etc. attached to the barriers to make the finish area clear for everyone, especially for the dogs to avoid they are getting disturbed.
- d) The flags of the nations must be present.
- e) A banner with the word « finish » is mandatory.
- f) Enough drinking buckets and bathing shells for dogs must be present so dogs can rehydrate and cool down. The organisation must make sure there is enough water provided and refilled if necessary.
- g) Drinks for the athletes
- h) A first aid place nearby
- i) Animation (for the audience/public)
- j) A place where the time / chrono is being taken, not open for the public
- k) Minimum 2 judges at the finish line, independent from the timekeeping post
- l) People who keep the finish zone clear and escort / help the athletes catching their breath after the race by holding their dogs.

Remark: Only a standing person has the possibility to encourage orally the competitor and/ or the dog. The encouragement by running or riding with a bike beside the competitor is strictly forbidden!

5.8.3. The commissioners and race judges must ensure this rule is respected.

## **5.9. Official information panel**

5.9.1. An official information panel will be placed on a strategic place so it will be noticed by every participant.

5.9.2. On this panel must be mentioned:

- a) The starting time of each participant of any Category, in mass, wave or individual start. The starting list will be published the day before the race in the evening – on Friday evening, on Saturday evening.
- b) The temperature measured at the start of every race.
- c) The name, telephone number and the place where they can find the president of the Technical Commission during the event.
- d) The list of results, noting « not official » or « official » with in each case, the mention of the time of posting.
- e) The decisions of the Technical Commission (disqualifications and penalties) with mention the time of posting.
- f) The complete text of the ICF rules in French and English.
- g) Maps of individual racing trails according to categories.
- h) A list of emergency contacts for local veterinary surgeons, doctors, police, fire rescue etc.

## CHAPTER 6: ORGANISER'S OBLIGATIONS

### 6.1. ICF

6.1.1. The organiser country must pay a deposit of 1000 €. In case of default, this deposit will remain property of the ICF. The payment can be done in the form of « Bank warranty ».

6.1.2. At the spring general assembly preceding the championship, the organising country will announce the price of the registration fees.

6.1.3. The organising country must pay a fee to the ICF. This will be 5€ (five euros) for Vet team per starting (1 start = race for the whole event), 10€ (ten euros) for committee and & Judges per starting adult, adapted and adapted 2 (1 start = race for the whole event), 5€ (five euros) per starting adult, adapted and adapted 2 (1 start = race for the whole event) and 2€ per starting Children (1 start = race for the whole event).

**IMPORTANT: START = REGISTERED START ON ENTRY FORM**

6.1.4. The deposit will be returned to the organising country; the amount of the fee will be deducted from it.

6.1.5. During its activities, the ICF is obliged to follow all and any obligations emerging for the ICF from the Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council 2016/679 dated 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons regarding personal data processing and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/ES (General Data Protection Regulation). It concerns mainly processing of personal data obtained during registration to the World Championships, processing of the starting list and other activities connected with obtaining personal data.

### 6.2. Veterinary

6.2.1 The organiser must provide a professional veterinary Team during the whole duration of the event for check of dogs and possible needs of competitors in case of an injury or a disease of a dog. For Veterinary details see [Chapter 7](#).

### 6.3. Obligations of the Organiser towards the Technical Commission

6.3.1. The organiser shall appoint a contact person who shall stay in contact with the President of the Technical Commission and who is able to answer all the questions (circuit, telephone numbers, etc...).

6.3.2. As soon as on Thursday, the organiser shall supply the President of the Technical Commission with a means of transport (quad, bike, 4x4 vehicle...) to allow the latter to view the circuit at any moment.

6.3.3. The organiser shall supply all the members of the Technical Commission with a lunch packet.

6.3.4. The organiser shall submit to the President of the Technical Commission: On Thursday, on the GM: the list of the entered participants, the starting list for all commissioners

(with bib numbers) – the map of the circuits after having mentioned the technical and/or critical points thereon.

6.3.5. On Saturday, immediately at the end of the first day: the official results to record the penalties therein and to sign the document to make the results official.

6.3.6. The organiser must provide drinks and lunch at noon for the people who work on the terrain.

6.3.7. The organiser must comply with the observations made by the Technical Commission.

6.3.8. The organiser of the race as well as the President of the Technical Commission or his assistant must attend the meetings of the Team leaders.

6.3.9. The organiser places supervisors on the race trail, whose task is to observe the anomalies and irregularities committed by the competitors. They will be trained, will be able to judge and will attend, completely or partly, the meetings of the Technical Commission to report about their work.

They will try to prove the reproached facts by making use of pictures (photos or videos).

## **6.4. Competitors**

6.4.1 The organiser will hand out to the team managers:

a) The documents to make a complaint (English, French, German)

b) The documents to register for the relays.

6.4.2 Each competitor must bring their identity card or passport. Nationality, gender, and date of birth will be checked by the organiser.

6.4.3. The competitors must know the ICF rules.

6.4.4. The competitors should prepare their dogs appropriately (for the length of the trail, training rates of dogs and competitors).

6.4.5. Competitors/handlers shall keep the stake out/parking area clean, leave no food, and dispose of the dog droppings or other waste in containers available for that purpose. If no such containers are foreseen, one should take the garbage for disposal at another suitable place not disturbing other persons.

## **6.5. First Aid**

6.5.1. A permanent sanitary or medical post is mandatory to be established on the site.

6.5.2. The nearest hospital should be informed about the competition. A vehicle must be provided in case of an intervention on site.

6.5.3. The organiser pays all and any costs regarding the arrangement of medical supervision or first aid services. The organiser arranges the services in compliance with internal legislative requirements of the given country.

## 6.6. Security

6.6.1. The whole trail must be accessible with a vehicle in case of any accident. An official vehicle may be used on the trail in case of accident or technical problem.

6.6.2. The organiser arranges all and any other matters related to security (for example protection of the location, or matters related to arrangement of fluency and safety of traffic) in compliance with internal legislative requirements of the given country.

## 6.7. Souvenirs

6.7.1. Regardless of the competition aspect and sport event, there is a tourist and psychological aspect of the event. It is desirable that the organising country takes advantage of the occasion to give a souvenir prize to every participant.

6.7.2. The organiser offers to each competitor a T-shirt or something else as an event present. The cost of such a present is included in the amount of the first registration. This present will be submitted to the nations (as well as the medals for the winners) at the last spring GM before the event.

6.7.3. On Friday night or Saturday night, the organiser offers a festive meal to each competitor. The cost of this meal is included in the amount of the first registration.

## 6.8. Clean up

6.8.1. Everyone will ensure on the race venue that they **clean up their dog's faeces** (and why not somebody else's mess, if this person is not paying attention). He will respect the local and natural environment. In case of any problems, the Technical Commission may issue a warning according to these Rules.

## 6.9. General Data Protection Regulation

6.9.1. During his organisation activities, the organiser is obliged to follow all and any obligations emerging for the ICF from the Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council 2016/679 dated 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons regarding personal data processing and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/ES (General Data Protection Regulation). It concerns mainly processing of personal data obtained during registration to the World Championships, processing of the starting list and results list, making photographs or videos from the championships and other activities connected with personal data.

## CHAPTER 7: VETERINARY

### 7.1. Veterinary

7.1.1. The organiser must have at least two vets always available during the whole duration of the event for check of dogs and possible needs of competitors in case of an injury or a disease of a dog.

7.1.2 During the whole event a veterinary cover must be available. The Vet must stay at the stake out or nearby, during the night as well.

A list of emergency contacts for local veterinary surgeons must be reported on the official information panel.

7.1.3 The dogs must be identifiable by tattoo or electronic chip.

7.1.4. The dogs must pass the vet control to be accepted to the race. Dogs that do not pass the examinations of the vet will not be allowed to start.

7.1.5. The dog must be identifiable and in order with all the vaccinations.

7.1.6. The dogs must be vaccinated: it is the veterinary book of the dogs that will count to verify if the dog has had all the necessary vaccinations. Mandatory vaccinations are: Rabies, Parvovirus, Distemper and Kennel Cough (KC). KC vaccine must be effective against the Parainfluenza virus (CPiV) and the Bordetella bronchiseptica bacteria (Bb) regardless of the trademark of the vaccine. In case of the first vaccination, this must be done at least 21 days before the event.

7.1.7. Unannounced controls on the dogs should take place at the start, finish or during the event. The vets and the President of the Technical Commission, have the right to implement vet controls anytime.

7.1.8. Female dogs in heat are authorised to take the start, if steps are taken to mitigate the adverse effects of this period.

7.1.9. The vet will decide if a bitch may start or not in case of pregnancy.

7.1.10. The vet will verify the age of the dog, which must be at least 18 months for Canicross, bike-joëring and scooter. **No derogation will be allowed.**

7.1.11. The vet will order or do the doping controls on a dog if he deems it suspicious.

7.1.12. The competitor can still change the dog until the veterinary control.

7.1.13. During the veterinary inspection, the children of the school boys/girls category will be evaluated with their dog in front of the Technical Commission and must show that they are capable of controlling the dog. If the examiners see any difficulties, the parents will be advised to find another dog. If the child cannot find another suitable dog, he can still take the start with his dog, but the family will be warned about the possible danger. In other words, the family is advised to choose a suitable dog for their child adapted to his performances.

## CHAPTER 8: DISCIPLINES, CATEGORIES<sup>4</sup>

### 8.1. Bike-Joëring

Juniors men (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors men (from 19 until 39 years), with title

Masters Men I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Men II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Master Men III (from 60 years and more), with title

Juniors women (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors women (from 18 until 39 years), with title

Masters Women I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Women II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Women III (from 60 years and more), with title

### 8.2. Scooter with 1 dog

Juniors men (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors men (from 19 until 39 years), with title

Masters Men I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Men II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Men III (from 60 and more), with title

Juniors women (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors women (from 18 years until 39 years), with title

Masters Women I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Women II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Women III (from 60 and more), with title

---

<sup>4</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

### 8.3. Canicross

School Boys (from 7 until 9 years), with title

Young Boys (from 10 until 12 years), with title

Cadets Boys (from 13 until 15 years), with title

Juniors men (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors men (from 19 until 39 years), with title

Masters Men I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Men II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Men III (from 60 years and more), with title

School Girls (from 7 until 9 years), with title

Young Girls (from 10 until 12 years), with title

Cadets Girls (from 13 until 15 years), with title

Juniors women (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors women (from 19 until 39 years), with title

Masters Women I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Women II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Women III (from 60 years and more), with title

Adapted Men (from 7 years and more), with title

Adapted Women (from 7 years and more), with title

Adapted 2 Men (from 7 years and more), with title

Adapted 2 Women (from 7 years and more), with title

**Example reference 2025:** (This table can be used and adapted every year) Appendix No.1

## 8.4. ELITE

8.4.1. Elite title includes all the competitors from individual disciplines, from the Senior category and older. School, Young, Cadets and Junior Category cannot participate in the Elite race.

Announcement of three fastest competitors, in three disciplines by summarising the results of individual categories for both days of the Championship. The Elite title of World Champion is awarded to the competitor masculine and feminine having the best time scratch in each discipline with trophy + event anthem in the presence of the champions of each category, at the end of the podium ceremony.

8.4.2. The title will be granted for the categories:

Bike-Joëring men (seniors, master men I, master men II, master men III)

Bike-Joëring women (seniors, master women I, master women II, master women III)

Scooter men (seniors, master men I, master men II)

Scooter women (seniors, master women I, master women II)

Canicross men (seniors, master men I, master men II, master men III)

Canicross women (seniors, master women I, master women II, master women III)

## 8.5. RELAY

Relay Canicross men (from junior to master III)

Relay Canicross women (from junior to master III)

Relay mixed Canicross, Scooter & Bike men - (from junior, to master III)

Relay mixed Canicross, Scooter & Bike women - (from junior, to master III)

(See [Chapter 12](#))

## 8.6. GENERAL RULES – CATEGORIES, DISCIPLINES

8.6.1. Every competitor is obliged to run in his/her category.

8.6.2. For the determination of every category, the birthday date is not taken into consideration, it is the birth year that counts for the determination. (See [Appendix 01](#) as general reference)

8.6.3. The identity of the competitor, as well as his birth date, gender and nationality, will be submitted to controls (obligatory) by the organiser, by means of the competitor's identity card or passport.

8.6.4. The weight of the dog is not taken into consideration.

8.6.5. The dog has must be at least 18 months old for Canicross, bike-joëring and scooter. **No derogation will be allowed.**

8.6.6. The amount of the registration fee for the scooter race is identical to the amount of the other disciplines. One and the same competitor cannot register for the 3 disciplines: solely two different disciplines are admitted.

8.6.7. As a reminder The dog is only allowed to race twice<sup>5</sup>:

- One Junior or Adult Trail **AND** a School or Young or Cadet Trail
- One Junior or Adult Trail **AND** a Relay
- One School or Young or Cadet Trail **AND** a Relay
- Two School or Young or Cadet Trail

Therefore, if a competitor registers for more than the allowed races and in different discipline, he must take part with two different dogs.

8.6.8. The title will be given to all categories consisting of min 3 registered competitors even if there are less than 3 competitors classified in the end (due to absence, disqualification, abandonment)

8.6.9. If there are less than 3 competitors registered on the official list of the starts, the podium ceremony will be held, with national anthem and flag, and medal. **But no official title will be awarded.** (The competitor cannot say he is World champion.)

8.6.10. It is strictly forbidden to pull the dog when running (canicross) or to ride in front of the dog (bike-joëring, scooter). The maximal limit is the shoulders of the animal towards the runner. If the dog runs at the same level as the runner, the leash may not be tense. It is **strictly forbidden to pull the dog**, pulling the dog is only allowed to put him in the right direction: change of direction, detangling, inattention due to environmental factors (dog of spectator, wild animals...). The competitor will slow down if the dog is tired and will adapt his speed to that of the dog. In case of steep downhill, the dog may be held behind the competitor. In case of breach of the rules, the competitor will be penalised.

8.6.11. On a technical trail or a long trail, should be admitted that it is possible that the runner overtakes involuntary the dog or that the dog may hesitate. In this case the Technical Commission can decide to tolerate the situation if the action is very short and involuntary.

8.6.12. During the competition, a competitor can demand to let him pass, if he says the word « PISTE » or «TRAIL». The competitor who is being overtaken must let the other team pass. The slower athlete must hold his dog short against him during the passage, especially in presence of dogs which are reactive or in heat. Refusing to let a faster team pass by putting the dog on one side of the road and the competitor at the other side is also forbidden. In case of breach of the rules, the competitor will be penalised.

8.6.13. In the last 200 metres, the competitors do not have to hold the dogs short when there is another team passing, but they may never disturb the other team, for example by blocking the route, by putting the dog on one side of the road and the competitor at the other side.

8.6.14 During the competition, the dog must wear a harness. The leash must be attached to the harness and may not be attached to the collar during the race. In case of breach, the competitor will be penalised.

8.6.15. Collars of the type choker, « haltis » and leashes of the rolling type are strictly forbidden. In case of breach, the competitor will be penalised.

---

<sup>5</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

## 8.7. Chronological order of the starts<sup>6</sup>:

- 01 Scooter Men / Seniors Hommes
- 02 Scooter Women / Seniors Dames
- 03 Scooter Master Men I / Vétérans Hommes I
- 04 Scooter Master Women I / Vétérans Dames I
- 05 Scooter Master Men II / Vétérans Hommes II
- 06 Scooter Master Men III/ Vétérans Hommes III
- 07 Scooter Juniors Men / Juniors Hommes
- 08 Scooter Juniors Women / Juniors Filles
- 09 Scooter Master Women II / Vétérans Dames II
- 10 Scooter Master Women III / Vétérans Dames III
- 11 Bike-Jöring Men / Seniors Hommes
- 12 Bike-Jöring Women / Seniors Dames
- 13 Bike-Jöring Master Men I / Vétérans I Hommes
- 14 Bike-Jöring Master Women I / Vétérans I Dames
- 15 Bike-Jöring Master Men II / Vétérans II Hommes
- 16 Bike-Jöring Master Women II / Vétérans II Dames
- 17 Bike-Jöring Master Men III / Vétérans III Hommes
- 18 Bike-Jöring Juniors Men / Juniors Garçons
- 19 Bike-Jöring Juniors Women / Juniors Filles
- 20 Bike-Jöring Master Women III / Vétérans III Dames
- 21 Canicross Men / Seniors Hommes
- 22 Canicross Women / Seniors Dames
- 23 Canicross Master Men I / Vétérans I Hommes
- 24 Canicross Master Women I / Vétérans I Dames
- 25 Canicross Master Men II / Vétérans II Hommes
- 26 Canicross Master Women II / Vétérans II Dames
- 27 Canicross Master Men III / Vétérans III Hommes
- 28 Canicross Juniors Men / Juniors Garçons
- 29 Canicross Juniors Women / Juniors Filles
- 30 Canicross Master Women III / Vétérans III Dames
- 31 Canicross Adapted Sport Men (on Adult Trail)
- 32 Canicross Adapted Sport Women (on Adult Trail)
- 33 Canicross Cadets Boys / Cadets Garçons
- 34 Canicross Cadets Girls / Cadets Filles
- 35 Canicross Young Boys / Minimes Garçons
- 36 Canicross Young Girls / Minimes Filles
- 37 Canicross School Boys / Benjamins Garçons
- 38 Canicross School Girls / Benjamins Filles
- 39 Canicross Adapted 2 Sport Men (on School Trail)
- 40 Canicross Adapted 2 Sport Women (on School Trail)

Relays Canicross men (from junior, to master III)

Relays Canicross women (from junior, to master III)

Relays mixed Canicross, Scooter & Bike men - (from junior, to master III)

Relays mixed Canicross, Scooter & Bike women - (from junior, to master III)

---

<sup>6</sup> Decision taken in 2024 GA in Italy

# CHAPTER 9: BIKE-JOËRING

## 9.1. General Provisions

9.1.1. The circuit will be held on Saturday and Sunday.

9.1.2. The distance may not exceed 7 km, with a minimum of 5 km.

9.1.3. The trail on Sunday may be the same trail as on Saturday. The trail may be the same as canicross.

9.1.4. The starts will always be given individually for scooter and bike-joëring.

9.1.5. On Saturday the starts will be given per category and in the order of the race numbers (bib numbers) which have been made according to the point 4.4.2. (Register procedure).

9.1.6. The starting list will be placed on the official panel in the evening of the day before start.

9.1.7. On Sunday, starts will be given in order of the realised time on Saturday, from the fastest to the slowest in each discipline. The start in the disciplines is only by time, that means, the fastest starts first, never mind the age or if man or woman.

## 9.2. Categories<sup>7</sup>

**Juniors men (from 16 until 18 years), with title**

Seniors men (from 19 until 39 years), with title

Masters Men I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Men II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Master Men III (from 60 years and more), with title

**Juniors women (from 16 until 18 years), with title**

Seniors women (from 18 until 39 years), with title

Masters Women I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Women II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Women III (from 60 years and more), with title

## 9.3. Competitors' Obligations

9.3.1. The competitor must be present in the calling chamber 10 minutes before the official start. Dog can be brought into the starting area at least as soon as the team must enter in the 'racing lane'.

Once they have entered the calling chamber they can no longer get out. They will be at the disposition of the starter. Several controls can still be made before the competitor enters the chamber or even inside the calling chamber (check of equipment and technical conditions of the

---

<sup>7</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

bike, harness of the dog, length of the lead, identification of the dog by reading the electronic chip or a legible tattoo).

9.3.2. Once in the calling chamber it is forbidden to leave. If there is any problem with equipment (harness, carabine, ...) another (third) person may go and look for it and pass it through the fence.

9.3.3. A Team Manager can put in the starting zone "Calling Chamber", 'approved' race equipment to compensate for a breakage of last minute.

9.3.4. The competitor may be assisted in the starting area before departure by **one person**. This person will hold the dog **OR** the bike.

9.3.5. If the competitor is inactive and lets himself being pulled by the dog without any help will be penalised.

## 9.4. Equipment in Bike-Joëring Categories

9.4.1. In bike-joëring categories, the athlete must be at the start with:

- a) A plate fixed on the front side of the bike which must be clearly visible and mentioning the race number of the competitor AND a bib-number fixed on the chest, or a tissue bib-number – the electronic chip must be fixed as explained by the timekeeping team.
- b) A helmet
- c) Gloves
- d) Glasses are not mandatory, **but highly recommended**<sup>8</sup>
- e) A leash attached to the dog's harness and fixed to the bike, under the steering bar and above the bicycle fork. The leash must be a shock absorbing line and may not exceed 2.5 m when fully extended.
- f) It is mandatory for the dog to wear a harness.
- g) The competitor is allowed to use a rail or a rod with a ring to let the leash (bar/antenna) go through it. This equipment is not mandatory, but only recommended.
- h) The age of dog: minimum 18 months, no exception possible

9.4.2. Competitor must assure that the bike is not equipped with any metallic mud gard

9.4.3. To be classified for bike-joëring, the competitor must cross the finish line with 3 elements: himself, the dog, and the bike. These 3 elements must do the whole trail and must cross the finish line together.

9.4.4. The change of mountain bike or frame is allowed between the Saturday and the Sundays race. In case of any technical defaults the mountain bike may be repaired. Swapping the whole bike is allowed.

9.4.5. In Bike-Joëring, the use of a mountain bike is compulsory. To clarify our set of rules, the description of the mountain bike to be used will be the description of the International Cycling Federation (UCI). The use of a hidden engine is of course prohibited.

---

<sup>8</sup> **Decision Taken by ICF Steering Committee**

# CHAPTER 10: SCOOTER

## 10.1. General Provisions

10.1.1. The distance shall not be longer than 7 km, with a minimum of 5 km.

10.1.2. The distance is the same for all categories.

10.1.3. The scooter circuit is the same as the one for bike-joëring. The circuit shall be negotiable by scooter. It shall be inspected and approved during the Spring GM.

10.1.4. The same circuit shall be used on Saturday and Sunday. However, on the second day, the circuit can be adapted by the Technical Commission.

10.1.5. The starts will always be given individually.

10.1.6. On Saturday the starts will be given per category and in the order of the race numbers (bib numbers) which have been made according to the point 4.4.2. (Register procedure).

10.1.7. On Sunday, starts will be given in order of the realised time on Saturday, from the fastest to the slowest in each discipline. The start in the disciplines is only by time, that means, the fastest starts first, never mind the age or if man or woman.

10.1.8. If the competitor is inactive and lets himself being pulled by the dog without any help will be penalised.

## 10.2. Categories<sup>9</sup>

Juniors men (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors men (from 19 until 39 years), with title

Masters Men I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Men II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Men III (from 60 and more), with title

Juniors women (from 16 until 18 years), with title

Seniors women (from 18 until 39 years), with title

Masters Women I (from 40 until 49 years), with title

Masters Women II (from 50 until 59 years), with title

Masters Women II (from 60 and more), with title

---

<sup>9</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

### 10.3. Competitors' Obligations

10.3.1 The competitor must be present in the calling chamber 10 minutes before the official start. Dog can be brought into the starting area at least as soon as the team must enter in the 'racing lane'. Once they have entered the calling chamber they can no longer get out. They will be at the disposition of the starter. Several controls can still be made before the competitor enters the chamber or even inside the calling chamber (check of equipment and technical conditions of the bike, harness of the dog, length of the lead, identification of the dog by reading the electronic chip or a legible tattoo).

10.3.2. Once in the calling chamber it is forbidden to leave. If there is any problem with equipment (harness, carabine, ...) another (third) person may go and look for it and pass it through the fence.

10.3.3. A Team Manager can put in the starting zone "Calling Chamber", 'approved' race equipment to compensate for a breakage of last minute.

10.3.4. The competitor may be assisted in the starting area before departure by **one person**. This person will hold the dog **OR** the scooter.

10.3.5. The bib numbers are given at random. The bibs shall be attached firmly on the competitor's chest. A small plate bearing the same number shall be attached on the front side of the scooter.

10.3.6. The age of dog: minimum 18 months, no exception possible

10.3.7. The competitor shall compulsorily wear a helmet and gloves. It is advisable to wear glasses.

10.3.8 A leash shall be secured to the dog's harness. The other end shall be secured to the scooter, under the handlebars and above the fork.

10.3.9 This leash shall be extensible in order to absorb the shocks but may not be longer than 2.5 m once extended.

10.3.10. The dog shall compulsorily wear a harness.

10.3.11. To be ranked in scooter, the competitor shall cross the finish line with 3 elements: himself, the dog, and the scooter. These three elements must have gone through the full circuit and all three cross the finish line.

10.3.12. It is allowed to use another scooter to start on the second day.

10.3.13. The competitor is allowed to use a rail or a rod with a ring to let the leash (bar/antenna) go through it. This equipment is not mandatory, but only recommended.

10.3.14. It is not allowed to wear shoes with spikes.

10.3.15. Metallic mudguards are not allowed.

10.3.16. The competitor and his dog shall share their efforts. A competitor who is judged inactive by the Technical Commission will be immediately disqualified.

10.3. 17. The change of scooter or frame is allowed between the Saturday and the Sunday race. In case of any technical defaults the scooter may be repaired. Swapping the whole scooter is allowed.

# CHAPTER 11: CANICROSS

## 11.1. General Information for all the Canicross Categories

Canicross: the competition is held on both days (Saturday, Sunday), the trail is always the same in both days, the length of the trail differs for individual categories.

### 11.1.1. Starts on Saturday

11.1.1.1. On Saturday the starts will be given per category and in the order of the race numbers (bib numbers) which have been made according to the point 4.4.2. (Register procedure). The starts will be individual or in pairs (two by two).

11.1.1.2. The starts for canicross may be given individually every minute or every 30 or 15 seconds. The individual starts are of the type « against the clock ».

The interval between start should be defined according to the resolution of the organiser and with the approval of the Technical Commission.

### 11.1.2. Starts on Sunday

11.1.2.1. On Sunday, starts will be given in order of the realised time on Saturday, from the fastest to the slowest in each discipline.

The start in the disciplines is only by time, that means, the fastest starts first, never mind the age or if man or woman.

11.1.2.2. The second day (Sunday), the starts may be given as « mass start ».

Mass start should be allowed, after inspecting the trail, at the spring general assembly preceding the championship, through a vote to decide whether the mass start will be safe or not.

11.1.2.3. Mass starts could be allowed only for Canicross, except for School, Young and Cadets Categories, only if all safety conditions are granted (width and length of the starting area and individual protection, for example with nets over a sufficient length).

For this type of start, it is mandatory to have a starting area of at least 50 metres wide, the zone where all competitors come close together on a smaller trail must be at least 100 metres after the starting line.

After this 100 m long stretch it is advised to avoid a 90° turn, so participants will not fall and there is less chance that they get tangled up with the dogs.

11.1.2.4. If the terrain cannot permit to have a mass start due to lack of space, the departures may be held in waves or individual (as 5.6.3.1.). The starting time and competitors of each wave must be mentioned on the official information panel. The Type of departure (mass, wave or individual) will be decided by vote at the spring General Assembly preceding the championship.

### 11.1.3. Calling Chamber

11.1.3.1. The competitor must be present in the calling chamber 10 minutes before the official start. Dog can be brought into the starting area at least as soon as the team must enter in the 'racing lane'. Once they have entered the calling chamber they can no longer get out. They will be at the disposition of the starter. Several controls can still be made before the competitor enters the chamber or even inside the calling chamber. The school girls/boys, young boys/girls, **cadets boys/girls** may be assisted by their « assistant » - only one.

11.1.3.2. Once in the calling chamber it is forbidden to leave. If there is any problem with equipment (harness, carabine, ...) another (third) person may go and look for it and pass it through the fence.

11.1.3.3. A Team Manager can put in the starting zone “Calling Chamber”, ‘approved’ race equipment to compensate for a breakage of last minute.

## **11.2. Canicross Adults and Juniors**

11.2.1. The junior and the adult categories run the same distance both days.

11.2.2. The distance shall not be longer than 7 km, with a minimum of 5 km.

11.2.3. The bib-number fixed on the chest or his tissue race number – the electronic chip will be fixed as explained by the timekeeping team.

11.2.4. A leash attached to the harness of the dog and fixed on the runner’s belt, a harness or a canicross trouser. The leash must be a shock absorbing line and may not be longer than 2 m when fully stretched.

11.2.5. It is mandatory for the dog to wear a harness.

11.2.6. The age of the dog: minimum 18 months, no exception possible.

11.2.7. It is not allowed to wear shoes with spikes.

## **11.3. Canicross Young Boys/Girls, Cadets Boys/Girls:**

11.3.1. For the young and Cadets boys/girls, the distance may not exceed 3 km, with a minimum of 2 km. The distance is the same for both days.

11.3.2. The competitor **may be accompanied in the first 200 metres** in order to help him manage his dog during the departure.

11.3.3. The adult who accompanies must secure the child with a double leash that is longer than the leash of the child. The task of the adult is to ensure the security of the child and may only intervene if a problem arises. Neither the child, nor the dog should be stimulated physically or psychologically, by a word or an attitude, to improve their performance.

11.3.4. The bib-number fixed on the chest or his tissue race number – the electronic chip will be fixed as explained by the timekeeping team.

11.3.5. A leash attached to the harness of the dog and fixed on the runner’s belt, a harness or a canicross trouser. The leash has to be a shock absorbing line and may not be longer than 2 m when fully stretched.

11.3.6. It is mandatory for the dog to wear a harness.

11.3.7. The age of the dog: minimum 18 months, no exception possible

11.3.8. It is not allowed to wear shoes with spikes

## **11.4. Canicross School Boys/ Girls**

11.4.1. For the School boys/girls, the distance may not exceed 2 km, with a minimum of 1,2 km. Advised: 1,5 km.

11.4.2. The school boys/girls must be accompanied by an adult over the whole distance! The adult who accompanies must secure the child with a double leash that is longer than the leash of the child. The task of the adult is to ensure the security of the child and may only intervene if a problem arises. Neither the child, nor the dog should be stimulated physically or psychologically, by a word or an attitude, to improve their performance.

11.4.3. The adult may never be ahead of the child. If the adult does, so the child will be time penalised.

11.4.4. The age of the dog: minimum 18 months, no exception possible

11.4.5. Remark concerning the capability of controlling their dog in front of the Technical Commission during the veterinary inspection (see point 7.1.13).

### **11.4.6. The athlete must be at the start with:**

a) His bib-number fixed on his chest or his tissue race number – the electronic chip will be fixed as explained by the timekeeping team.

b) A leash attached to the harness of the dog and fixed on the runner's belt, a harness or a canicross trouser. The leash must be a shock absorbing line and may not be longer than 2 m when fully stretched.

11.4.7. It is mandatory for the dog to wear a harness.

11.4.8. It is not allowed to wear shoes with spikes

## CHAPTER 12: RELAY – CANICROSS

### 12.1. Relay – Canicross

12.1.1. The relay race will be held on a trail of 1 km – 1,5 km maximum. This circuit may be the same as the school boys/girls.

12.1.2. Each nation can enter:

- 2 canicross teams per gender (2 women's teams and 2 men's teams)
- 1 mixed discipline relay (scooter, bike & canicross team) per gender (1 women's teams and 1 men's teams).

For Canicross Teams, there will only be eligible one official team, the fastest one. The slowest team of each Nation will be excluded from the podium and receive no medal. Podium must consist of three different nations. The organiser is invited to provide for an « award » for the teams who will so be excluded from the podium and receive no medal.

### 12.2. Who May Run the Relay for Title

12.2.1. Three men from the same country starting from the junior category, who participate in the Championship in an individual category (canicross, bike-joëring, scooter).

12.2.2. Three women from the same country starting from junior category, who participate in the Championship in an individual category (canicross, bike-joëring, scooter).

12.2.3. All humans and dogs must have competed at the Championships already (in canicross, bike-joëring or scooter), they cannot just register for the Relay event.

12.2.4. The dog is only allowed to race twice<sup>10</sup>:

- One Junior or Adult Trail AND a School or Young or Cadet Trail
- One Junior or Adult Trail AND a Relay
- One School or Young or Cadet Trail AND a Relay
- Two School or Young or Cadet Trail

12.3. Registration Process

12.3.1 The team Manager must register his relay teams within the terms and using the forms that are handed out by the organiser. Modifications are still possible until 15 minutes before the start of the first relay if the organiser is informed.

12.3.2. The organiser will hand out to the team managers:

a) The documents to register for the relays (3 competitors)

b) 6 sets of 3 bib-numbers per Country (for ex., France 1a, France 1b, France 1c):

- 2 sets for male relay;
- 2 sets for female relay;
- 2 sets for male and female mixed discipline relay (Canicross, Scooter, bike-joëring).

---

<sup>10</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

## **12.4. Starts of Relay**

12.4.1. The starts are from the type « Mass start » In this way, the first team who crosses the finish line will be declared World Champion, except if they did not respect the race rules and are being subject to a protest.

If there is not sufficient space, the start may be performed in waves, according to the choice of the organiser and the consent of the Technical Commission.

12.4.2. The organiser has the obligation to hang out the ranking of every relay team that participates.

12.4.3. The medals will be given to the first three teams.

## **12.5. Chronological Order:**

12.5.1. The first runner of the team will run the trail. He will give his dog to a helper in the provided zone which must be named « relay zone ». This zone will be approximately 30 metres long and will be made visible (by using plastic bands, etc...) by the organiser.

12.5.2. The athlete will continue without the dog and must touch the second runner's hand who is waiting with his dog within the relay zone.

12.5.3. The second runner will do the same as the first runner.

12.5.4. The last runner will finish the trail by crossing the finish line with his dog.

## **12.6. Relay Mixed Discipline – Canicross-Scooter- Bike-Joëring**

12.6.1. Three-member relays may be mixed in any way, and from the junior category, who participate in the Championship in an individual category (canicross, bike-joëring, scooter).

12.6.2. The relay race will be held on a trail of 1 km – 1,5 km maximum. This circuit may be the same as for the school boys/girls.

12.6.3. All humans and dogs must have competed at the Championships already (in canicross, bike-joëring or scooter), they cannot just register for the Relay event.

12.6.4. The starts are from the type « Mass start » In this way, the first team who crosses the finish line will be declared World Champion, except if they did not respect the race rules and are being subject to a protest.

If there is not sufficient space, the start may be performed in waves, according to the choice of the organiser and the consent of the Technical Commission.

12.6.5. The first runner of the team will run the trail (canicross). He will give his dog to a helper in the provided zone which must be named « relay zone ». This zone will be approximately 30 metres long and will be made visible (by using plastic bands, etc...) by the organiser.

12.6.6. The athlete will continue without the dog and must touch the second runner's hand who is waiting with his dog and scooter within the relay zone.

12.6.7. The second competitor (scooter) will do the same as the first runner, in the relay zone, he will give the dog and the scooter. ICF Technical Director will prepare a document for the organisers in order to clearly specify the course of the relay event.

12.6.8. The last runner (bike-joëring) will finish the trail by crossing the finish line with his dog and his bike.

12.6.9. Mixed Relay follows the official canicross relays.

## CHAPTER 13: TECHNICAL COMMISSION

### 13.1. Composition of the Technical Commission:

13.1.1 For each event, the Technical Commission will consist of a president and 3 commissioners (+ one reserve) « all non-competitors », representing one of the nations affiliated to the ICF. The nations which must provide a commissioner will be chosen by lottery at the fall GA to avoid unnecessary travelling. The president and commissioners chosen by lottery will have different nationalities. If needed another lottery will be proposed. The country which commissioner is absent, is not fulfilling its duty and will therefore lose its right to vote at the GA.

13.1.2. A non-competitor team manager cannot be part of the Technical Commission because in case of filing a claim (protest), he cannot be judge and party at the same time.

13.1.3. The president of the Technical Commission is elected for 4 years at a fall general assembly. If a World Championship is organised by the elected president's nation, he cannot remain in his function. A substitution president will be elected for this event. The mandate of the outset president will be extended for 1 year.

13.1.4. Independently of the members of the Technical Commission, race judges, provided by the organiser, will be placed on strategic places and spread over the total length of the different trails, especially on difficult areas.

13.1.5. The race judges are under the command of the president of the Technical Commission. They must report every irregularity that they have seen on the place where they were put. For this purpose, they will be invited at the meeting of the Technical Commission to be heard.

13.1.6. Technical equipment (camera, video camera...) will be an advantage to argument regarding possible irregularities that have been observed.

13.1.7. The race judges do not take any decisions, only the Technical Commission will take decisions on the disputes or irregularities observed.

13.1.8. The race judges may also function as signalman and security men.

13.1.9. It must be noted that the trail markings must be sufficient on their own to show participants the right way, competitors should be able to run the race without any help of the race judges (who are obliged to assure the function of signalman if needed).

## **13.2. Expertise of the Technical Commission:**

13.2.1. Making sure the organiser is checking the identity documents of the athletes (name – year of birth – nationality)

13.2.2. Having the children of the category School Boys/Girls do an ability test at the veterinary inspection

13.2.3. Supervising the regularity, smooth running and application of the race rules of the competition very strictly.

13.2.4. Announcing the warnings.

13.2.5. Inflicting the penalties.

13.2.6. Deciding about disqualifications. Examination and deciding about well-founded complaints (protests).

13.2.7 Checking the temperature and when needed deciding to make the trails shorter. The decision must be taken in the afternoon before the race (not later than Friday 4:30 p.m. or Saturday 4:30 p.m.) by the Technical Commission.

13.2.8. The distance of the trails per category depends on the climatic conditions. The Technical Commission must verify the temperatures and if needed the trails will be made shorter.

- a) The trail will be made slightly shorter starting from 20 °C and above, temperature will be taken 1 hour before the first start, 1 metre above the ground, in the shade at the starting area.
- b) The distance of the trail must be imperatively reduced in case of extreme heat, regarding temperatures above the ground of 25 °C, taken 1 hour before the first start in the starting area, 1 metre above the ground, in the shade.

13.2.9. For the kids trail, the distance may not exceed half the adult distance.

13.2.10. Checking the relevance of the number of commissioners of the race and the choice of their placement on the trail.

13.2.11. Checking the trail markings. Checking if the dangerous areas are well marked and secured. Checking if the security of competitors is assured, especially in bike-joëring or in scooter (if needed the Technical Commission will adapt the trail).

13.2.12. Ordering doping controls on a competitor or on a dog.

13.2.13. Closing the circuit for trail inspection in case of pouring rain, to preserve the quality of the trail

13.2.14. Authorise (with penalty) or refuse of a second start, because of a « missed start ».

13.2.15. The president of the Technical Commission may demand a muzzle for aggressive dogs. If in the starting zone, a dog is showing aggressiveness or is disruptive even by playing, the President of the Technical Commission may order him to leave the starting zone.

### **13.3. Mode of Operation:**

13.3.1. The Technical Commission meets at the end of each day's competitions to consider the report of the race inspectors or the filing of a protest. After hearing all the concerned persons, only the 4 commissioners chosen by lottery and the president will take decisions to give eventual penalties, warnings, or disqualifications. The Technical Commission will hang out their decisions on the official information panel and will inform the Team Manager of the concerned competitor.

13.3.2. Neither the organiser, nor the ICF will be held liable for any decisions made by the Technical Commission which would be perceived as « unfair », « unjustified », « unfounded », « wrong », or « exaggerated », by a penalised competitor and/or its Team Manager.

## **CHAPTER 14: LODGING OF COMPLAINTS (OR PROTESTS)**

### **14.1. Lodging Complaints (or Protests)**

14.1.1. A written complaint will be lodged and addressed to the president of the Technical Commission, exclusively by the Team Manager of the athlete who considers himself being the victim of a prejudice and an amount of 30 € (thirty euros) must be paid in advance. The form will be published and handed over to the team managers during the first meeting of the team leaders.

14.1.2. To be admissible, the complaint must be lodged within a maximum of 30 minutes after the display of the results of the concerned race. The facts which include terms or the moment of announcement of results (official, unofficial) must be kept and monitored by the Team Manager.

14.1.3. If the Technical Commission decides that the athlete who has lodged his complaint is right, the amount of 30€ will be returned to the competitor. If this is not the case, the money will be kept by the ICF. To this end, the time of posting must be mentioned on the list of results. The Team Manager's mission is to temper to limit the number of trivial or useless complaints.

14.1.4. Every Team Manager must be in possession of the regulations printed by himself (latest official version published on the ICF site). When he lodges a complaint, he shall refer to the involved article.

14.1.5 The President of the Technical Commission shall prepare the official complaint lodging forms in 3 languages (French, English, German). These documents will be handed to the Team Manager on the first meeting on Friday.

14.1.6 In case of lodging a complaint there must be proof – that means that the evidence needs to be provided by the person lodging the complaint. The person lodging the complaint must present all and any decisive facts about the given matter and provide any identified evidence for proving them. Evidence can also include Photos, Video, and witness testimony. The Technical Commission will not take in consideration any lately presented evidence and facts (with some exceptions). The personal cameras are allowed and can be used to serve as a piece of evidence in the event of dispute. The Technical Commission is entitled to view the movie (or any other picture photograph) to assess the validity of a complaint.

14.1.7 The Team Manager of the concerned competitor has 30 minutes to make opposition by using the terms of a deposit of a claim (protest). The Technical Commission will meet again to examine the arguments of the opponent, or an error made by the organisation.

If the commission thinks it is necessary, they will surround themselves with potential witnesses. The commission will deliberate again, and this decision will be final.

14.1.8. The meetings of the Technical Commission are not public, participation of the public is prohibited. All and any evidence must be presented within the scope of the proceedings (chapter 14, article 14.1. point 14.1.6.). If it is necessary to invite a witness, the relevant Team Manager will be informed about it in time, before the start of the Technical Commission meeting at the latest. Such a witness must be proposed as early as at the moment of lodging the complaint, i.e., in compliance with the proceedings rule. The Technical Commission will not take in consideration any other proposals during its proceedings.

14.1.9. The Technical Commission is sovereign. Its decisions are without appeal. Neither the organiser, nor the ICF may be held responsible for the decisions of the Technical Commission which would be perceived as « unfair », « unjustified », « unfounded », « wrong » or « exaggerated » by a penalised competitor or his Team Manager.

## **CHAPTER 15: PENALISATION**

### **15.1. – General Provisions**

15.1.1. The proceedings at World championships shall be supervised by a Technical Committee. As a reminder, only the Technical Commission is competent to assign penalties.

15.1.2. The organiser shall take particular care to ensure that the commissaries may work in optimum conditions.

15.1.3. The individual penalisations are set by the Technical Commission, in compliance with rules of its session (chapter 13). The Technical Commission may give warnings based on other criteria and may also modulate the prescribed penalties. In case of the Technical Commission to apply this stipulation, their resolution must be appropriately and comprehensively justified and other criteria, used for such a resolution, must be appropriately explained.

15.1.4. Evidence of irregularities can be made by film, photo, marks on dogs or competitor's body (confirmed by a Doctor or a Vet) or simple testimony.

15.1.5. The report of the race judges will form the base of the penalty.

15.1.6. When someone is suspended from the competition by his/her national federation (including the disqualification of the aggressive dog), such sanction will automatically also apply to his entry in any ICF Championship.

### **15.2. – Penal Measures**

15.2.1 Time Penalty - for negligent infraction of race regulations but not as serious as it gives rise to a disqualification.

15.2.2 Disqualification - when the contestant intentionally, or by gross negligence, violates the race regulations, and this has given him/her an advantage, or any of his/her fellow contestants a disadvantage,

15.2.3. Written notice - A Warning shall be verbal.

15.2.4. All penalties are cumulative. They can go from a warning up to disqualification.

## 15.3. Penalties List

### 15.3.1. COMPETITOR

15.3.1.1. Not respecting the trail: **Disqualification.**

**Note.:** In case of force majeure, the Technical Commission will decide.

15.3.1.2. Refusing to let another team pass (or refusing to let the team pass by putting the dog on one side of the road and the competitor at the other side):

**1 minute** after first infringement.

**Disqualification** after the second infringement.

15.3.1.3. Prospection of the trails with dog is forbidden

- during the competitions
- 1 hour before the first start
- 1 hour after the arrival of the last competitor

If these rules are not followed: **Disqualification** of the competitor and of the dog with which he is registered.

15.3.1.4. Early departure: **30 seconds** (see point [5.6.2.10.](#))

15.3.1.5. Missed departure: **Disqualification**

15.3.1.6 Refusing control:

- a) vet: **Disqualification**
- b) material: **Disqualification**
- c) anti-doping: **Disqualification**
- d) identity: **Disqualification**

15.3.1.7. Inactive human (bike-joëring and scooter): (The driver lets himself being pulled by the dog without helping): **1 minute**

**Note.:** before this penalty is given there must be more than 1 (at least 2) observations.

15.3.1.8. Bike-Joëring and scooter: The human + bike or the scooter (even when carried) + dog must cross the finish line together. If this is not the case: **Disqualification**

15.3.1.9. Cheating with his age or the age of the dog: **Disqualification**

15.3.1.10. Accompanying adult in **School, Young and Cadets Boys/Girls Categories:**

- a) runs in front of the child:

**1 minute** after the first infringement.

**Disqualification** after the second infringement.

- b) Stimulates the child or the dog to improve their performances: **Disqualification**

15.3.1.11. When testing positive after doping control: **Disqualification**

Note: see [Chapter 16](#)

### **15.3.2. DOG**

15.3.2.1. Forbidden to pull the dog:

**1 minute** after the first infringement

**Disqualification** after the second infringement

15.3.2.2. Forbidden to run in front of the dog:

**Warning** after the first observation

**1 minute** per additional observation starting from the second observation.

15.3.2.3 Preventing the dog from drinking – making his needs:

**1 minute** after the first observation.

**Disqualification** after the second observation.

15.3.2.4. Unleashing the dog: **1 minute**.

15.3.2.5. Finishing without dog: **Disqualification**

15.3.2.6. Violence towards the dog or another concurrent: **Disqualification** (after the first infringement).

15.3.2.7. The dog is only allowed to race twice<sup>11</sup>:

- One Junior or Adult Trail **AND** a School or Young or Cadet Trail

- One Junior or Adult Trail **AND** a Relay

- One School or Young or Cadet Trail **AND** a Relay

- Two School or Young or Cadet Trail

**Disqualification** of the concerned competitor(s).

Therefore, if a competitor registers for more than the allowed races and in different discipline, he must take part with two different dogs.

15.3.2.8. Disruptive dog (even by playing): decision made by the Technical Commission.

On its demand, the competitor must leave the starting zone.

If the competitor refuses: **Disqualification**

15.3.2.9. Aggressive dog: **warning** or **1 minute** or **Disqualification** by decision of the Technical Commission.

15.3.2.10. Switching the dog at the second day or during the race: **Disqualification**

15.3.2.11. Dog running free on the trails: **Disqualification** of the competitor and of the dog with which he is registered. (See point 5.3.7.)

---

<sup>11</sup> Decision taken in 2024 Spring GA in Italy

### **15.3.3. MATERIAL**

15.3.3.1. No bib-number = no start = **Disqualification**

15.3.3.2. Leash too long – absence of shock breaker – absence of harness for the dog  
**Forbidden to take the start**  
If noted during the race: **1 minute**

15.3.3.3. The dog wears a « halti » or a choke collar: **Disqualification**

15.3.3.4. Canicross: Shoes with metal spikes:  
**Forbidden to take the start = Disqualification** (for the security of the dog).

15.3.3.5. Bike-Joëring and scooter:

- a) Absence of the helmet – metal mud guards on the bike:  
**Forbidden to take the start = Disqualification** (security).
- b) Absence of gloves: **1 minute**.

### **15.3.4. MISCELLANEOUS**

15.3.4.1. Modifying the relay team after the deadline: **Disqualification** (see chapter 25)

15.3.4.2. Carrying out a flag that is not the national flag (Ceremonies – departure zone and finish zone – at the parade): **Disqualification of the competitor** (see point 4.7.4.)

15.3.4.3. Formalities for lodging a claim (protest) under penalty of non-admissibility:

- a) Deadline: 30 minutes after hanging out of the results of the concerning race
- b) Written document must be brought by the Team Manager to the president of the Technical Commission, accompanied with the amount of 30 € (indexed)
  - If the complaint is not successful: the 30 € will be paid to the treasury of the ECF
  - If the competitor's complaint is successful: the 30 € will be returned to the competitor

15.3.4.4. Opposition to a decision of the Technical Commission or against a penalty: as in chapter 14, but the decision of the Technical Commission will be without appeal.

15.3.4.5. Absence at the podium ceremony: the prizes are not given (unless force majeure) - the medal and diploma will be retained.

# **CHAPTER 16: DOPING**

## **16.1. General Provisions**

16.1.1. ICF is registered at the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

16.1.2. ICF Anti-doping Rules and regulations shall apply. These include the WADA regulations (World Anti-Doping Code (hereinafter “Code”) harmonising anti-doping policies in all sports and all countries) for athletes and the specific ICF Regulations for dogs.

16.1.3. It is strictly forbidden to let the dog absorb any forbidden products (doping) in order to improve its performances.

16.1.4. Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport and individual dog sport as well.

16.1.5. The Code is the fundamental and universal document upon which the World Anti-Doping Program in sport is based. The purpose of the Code is to advance the anti-doping effort through universal harmonisation of core anti-doping elements. It is intended to be specific enough to achieve complete harmonisation on issues where uniformity is required, yet general enough in other areas to permit flexibility on how agreed-upon anti-doping principles are implemented. The Code has been drafted considering the principles of proportionality and human rights.

16.1.6 What is not provided in the provisions of these Rules, the Code is applying - the WADA doping rules by which the ICF is bound.

16.1.7. Consent of athletes or other legal basis is required for the collection of the personal data using the WADA International Standard. Other legislation, such as the Lisbon Treaty, the UNESCO Convention and the Treaty of the Council of Europe are an important aspect of the legitimacy of anti-doping and must also be taken into account in Europe.

## **16.2. General provisions of the doping control**

16.2.1. The doping controls can be done at any moment of the event, for humans and dogs (principally on the first 3 of every category). The designated athletes and dogs shall be submitted to doping control.

16.2.2. The controls may be ordered by the vets, the president of the Technical Commission, the ICF Committee or the Organiser.

16.2.3. If a person refuses the doping control, they will be automatically declared positive and excluded from the event. Such behaviour will be penalised.

16.2.4. The list of forbidden products: CIO list - The official text of the Prohibited List issued by the WADA (see: [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org)). Updated annually, the List identifies the substances and methods that are prohibited to athletes in- and out-of-competition.

16.2.5. Taking samples respectively the doping control of a competitor or a dog is held under supervision of the Team Manager.

16.2.6. A protocol in English will be written about the doping control, it will be signed by the chairman of the doping committee, the present Team Manager and the competitor who underwent the control. In case of a control of a dog, then also the dog owner.

### **16.3. Right of Appeal**

16.3.1. An appeal is possible for the person or the dog who has been tested positive.

16.3.2. The athlete has 30 minutes to appeal against his disqualification and may request a second control performed by another physician or vet.

16.3.3. If the outcome of the second control is also positive, another appeal is not possible. The disqualification will be final without appeal. The ICF may exclude the concerned athlete for a certain period or for the rest of his life.

16.3.4. However, if the second control tests negative, the whole case will be analysed by ICF Committee with the reports of the physicians or vets.

16.3.5. The 2 controls will be charged to the athlete. In every case when the athlete tests positive the charges of all the analyses will be charged to the offender.

### **16.4. The Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE)**

16.4.1. The presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers, and/or the Use or Attempted Use, Possession or Administration or Attempted Administration of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method shall not be considered an anti-doping rule violation if it is consistent with the provisions of a TUE granted in accordance with the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.

### **16.5. Anti-Doping Rules (Human Athletes)**

16.5.1 These Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in accordance with ICF's responsibilities under the WADA Code, and in furtherance of ICF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping in sport.

16.5.2. These Anti-Doping Rules are sport rules governing the conditions under which sport is played. Aimed at enforcing anti-doping principles in a global and harmonised manner, they are distinct in nature from criminal and civil laws and are not intended to be subject to or limited by any national requirements and legal standards applicable to criminal or civil proceedings. When reviewing the facts and the law of a given case, all courts, arbitral tribunals and other adjudicating bodies should be aware of and respect the distinct nature of these Anti-Doping Rules implementing the Code and the fact that these rules represent the consensus of a broad spectrum of stakeholders around the world as to what is necessary to protect and ensure fair sport.

#### **16.5.3 Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules**

16.5.3.1. Athletes who are bound by and required to comply with these Anti-Doping Rules, the following Athletes shall be considered to be International-Level Athletes for purposes of these Anti-Doping Rules, and therefore the specific provisions in these Anti-Doping Rules applicable to International-Level Athletes shall apply to such Athletes:

- a. All Athletes who are members of ICF or who, by virtue of an accreditation, a license or other contractual arrangement, or otherwise, are subject to the jurisdiction of ICF.
- b. All Athletes who compete in International Events organised by the ICF or where the ICF is the ruling body

#### **16.5.4 Disciplinary sanction**

16.5.4.1 Without prejudice to the penal sanctions possibly incurred pursuant to point 15.3. of this Rules, the applicable sanctions are following:

- a) the cancellation of the individual results obtained by the licensee during the competition.
- b) all consequences resulting from this cancellation, including the withdrawal of medals, points and prizes.

16.5.4.2 Disciplinary sanctions chosen among the following measures, excluding any pecuniary sanction:

- a) A temporary or permanent prohibition to participate in the competitions and events organised by the ICF or where the ICF is the ruling body
- b) A temporary or permanent prohibition to participate directly or indirectly in the organisation and conduct of the competitions or sports events organised by the ICF or where the ICF is the ruling body and the trainings preparing for it.
- c) A temporary or permanent prohibition from exercising the functions of the organs within the ICF.

16.5.4.3 When the ICF finds that the person concerned has violated the provisions of Anti-doping rules, they may receive a suspension to be defined according to the severity of the infringement.

16.5.4.4. The ICF sets the date of beginning for the sanctions.

#### **16.6. Anti-Doping Rules (Dogs)**

16.6.1. These Anti-Doping Rules for Dogs are adopted and implemented in accordance with ICF's responsibilities under the Code, and in furtherance of ICF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping of dogs in individual mushing disciplines. These Anti-Doping Rules aimed to enforce anti-doping principles in a global and harmonised manner. They are not intended to be subject to or limited by any national requirements and legal standards applicable to criminal or civil proceedings.

## **16.6.2. Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules**

16.6.2.1. These Anti-Doping Rules for Dogs participating in individual mushing disciplines shall apply to ICF and to each of its National federation. They also apply to the following Athletes, Owners, or Dogs Support Personnel, each of whom is deemed, as a condition of his/her membership, accreditation and/or participation in individual mushing disciplines, to have agreed to be bound by these Anti-Doping Rules, and to have submitted to the authority of ICF to enforce these Anti-Doping Rules and to the jurisdiction of the hearing organs panels specified in Anti-Doping Rules and determine cases and appeals brought under these Anti-Doping Rules. These Anti-Doping Rules for Dogs shall apply to Athletes, who are not regular members of ICF of one of its National Federations, but who want to be eligible to compete in a particular International Event of ICF according to the Race Rules World/European Championship.

## **16.6.3. Disciplinary sanction**

16.6.3.1. The following sports penalties for the animal:

- a) the cancellation of the individual results obtained by the animal during the competition.
- b) all consequences resulting from this cancellation, including the withdrawal of medals, points and prizes.
- c) the temporary or definitive prohibition to participate in the competitions and events organised by the ICF or where the ICF is the ruling body.

16.6.3.2. When the ICF finds that the person concerned has violated the provisions of Anti-doping rules, they may receive a suspension to be defined according to the severity of the infringement.

16.6.3.3. No disciplinary sanction is provided when the interested party demonstrates that the violation of the provisions of Anti-doping rules with which he is charged is due to no fault or negligence on his part. In this case, the interested party must demonstrate how the prohibited substance has penetrated the body of the animal.

16.6.3.4. The ICF sets the date of beginning for the sanctions.

16.6.3.5. When an animal has been banned from participating in sports competitions, he may only resume the competition after having undergone a new inspection carried out at the expense of his responsible person. The person concerned informs the ICF. The analysis report is sent by the laboratory to the national federation concerned. The participation in the first test to which the animal is registered after the blackout period is subject to the presentation of the negative result of the analysis report.

## **CHAPTER 17: INSURANCE**

### **17.1. Insurances**

17.1.1 The liability insurance and the “accidents” insurance are mandatory for athletes if their national federation does not insure them.

17.1.2. It is advised for the athletes to have a relevant insurance for the possible damage their dog can do to others.

17.1.3. The organiser of the event is obliged to have an insurance of the type « organisation » which covers his civil liability. The organiser may in no case be held responsible for any accidents caused by a competitor or his dog.

## **CHAPTER 18: FINAL STIPULATIONS**

### **18.1. Translation**

The original version of this document has been made in English and French. In case of differences between the original version and any translation, the English text is the only one to be considered.

La version originale de ce document est établie en anglais a français. En cas de contestation entre la version originale et toute traduction, c’est la version en anglais qui doit être prise en considération.

## Appendix No. 1 Example reference 2025<sup>12</sup>:

(This table can be used and adapted every year)

### **BIKE-JOËRING (men and women)**

**Juniors: born in 2009 - 2008 - 2007**

Seniors: born from 2006 until 1986 (included)

Masters I: born from 1985 until 1976 (included)

Masters II: born from 1975 until 1966 (included)

Masters III: born from 1965 and before...

### **SCOOTER 1 DOG (men and women)**

**Juniors: born in 2009 - 2008 - 2007**

Seniors: born from 2006 until 1986 (included)

Masters I: born from 1985 until 1976 (included)

**Masters II: born from 1975 until 1966 (included)**

**Masters III: born from 1965 and before...**

### **CANICROSS (men and women)**

**School Boys/girls: kids born in 2018 - 2017 - 2016**

**Young Boys/girls: kids born in 2015 - 2014 – 2013**

**Cadets Boys/girls: kids born in 2012 - 2011 – 2010**

**Juniors: born in 2009 - 2008- 2007**

Seniors: born from 2006 until 1985 (included)

Masters I: born from 1985 until 1976 (included)

Masters II: born from 1975 until 1966 (included)

Masters III: born from 1965 and before...

---

<sup>12</sup> Update 2025

## **Appendix No. 2 Proposal of the Model Timetable**

### **Thursday**

10h.00: Opening stake-out (can open on Wednesday evening)

12h.00: Opening of the trail for prospecting

15h.00: Fall General Assembly (this will take place on Thursday in order to have more time for debate and for the management of the event)

### **Friday**

From 09h.00 until 12h.00: Handing out of the bib-numbers by the Team Manager

From 10h.00 until 12h.00: Veterinary control and control of the competitors (identity + birth year)

From 13h.30 until 16h.00: Handing out of the bib-numbers by the Team Manager

From 13h.30 until 17h.00: Veterinary control and control of the competitors (identity + birth year)

14h.00: Meeting of the Technical Committee

16h.00: Meeting of the Team Managers

18h.00: Opening ceremony + aperitif + festive meal ( this meal may also be programmed for Saturday evening **or** restaurant )

### **Saturday**

From 06h.30 until 07h.30: Vet control and competitor control (identity + birth year)  
(only for competitors arrived during the night)

07h.00: Closure of the trails = trail forbidden for everyone and no more dogs on the trail

08h.00: First start Scooter followed by the Bike-Joëring

11h.00: First start Canicross

16h.00: Opening of the trails for prospection (one hours after the last competitor)

16h.00: Meeting of the Technical Commission + team of race judges

17h.15: Meeting Team managers

18h.00: Festive meal, if it has not been programmed on Friday evening **OR** restaurant

### **Sunday**

07h.00: Closure of the trails = trail forbidden for everyone – no more dogs on the trail

08h.00: First start Scooter followed by the Bike-Joëring

11h.00: First start Canicross - Individual or Mass starts

14h.30: Relay women

15h.00: Relay men

15 h.30: Relay mix

16h.00: Meeting of the Technical Commission + team of race judges

17h.30: Ceremony of the podiums and closure of the Championship

## **Appendix No. 3 Additional meals list and Stake Out Vehicle fee**

Organiser will provide a menu for athletes (free meals) including Vegetarian/vegan choice.

Additional meals must be paid directly to the Organiser by the athletes after filling a specific form.

The deadline date for paying the additional meals and stake out vehicle fee will be provided by the Organiser.