

INTERNATIONAL CANICROSS FEDERATION (ICF)

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

ANTI-DOPING REGULATIONS FOR CANICROSS - Ver. 1.15.09.25 (CANICROSS, BIKEJORING, SCOOTER)

1. Preliminary Notes: Ensuring Fair Play and Dog Well-being

To uphold the health and well-being of participating dogs and guarantee sporting fairness at the ICF World Canicross Championship 2025, the ICF Doping Control Team will collect biological samples (e.g., urine) from dogs from the opening of stake-out until the last day of competition (i.e. 7 - 9 November 2025).

Samples collection will be determined by:

- **Specialty:** Canicross, Bikejoring, or Scooter.
- **Arrival Order:** Based on final or partial arrival order (1st or 2nd day).
- **Random Selection.**
- **Targeted Suspects.**

Samples will be collected using methods that prevent manipulation or alteration, ensuring their integrity. They will then be anonymously analyzed at UNIRELAB (*) anti-doping laboratories in Milan, Italy according to ICF rules and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) guidelines.

(*) UNIRELAB s.r.l. is a company wholly owned by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry (MASAF), established in 2003. The company operates in the field of veterinary medicine on behalf of MASAF and offers a series of laboratory diagnostic services for canine and equestrian sports and veterinary medicine. UNIRELAB is a certified laboratory with Quality Management System ISO 9001 - 16941 and UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17025 and is affiliated with the Italian Sport Veterinary Medical Association (AMeSVI), as well as the National Italian Kennel Club (ENCI).

2. Definitions

- **PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (**)** : Chemical substances detectable in a dog's biological samples that are disallowed due to their ability to alter athletic performance in any manner or intensity or to make a dog possibly compete despite its health conditions not being suitable for sporting activity.
- **PROHIBITED METHODS** : Physical and medical procedures whose use and application are disallowed due to their ability to alter a dog's athletic performance in any manner or intensity or to make a dog compete despite its health conditions not being suitable for sporting activity.
- **SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL (***)** : Substances whose therapeutic use, based on a veterinary prescription, is permitted during the ICF World Championship. This requires the competitor to submit either the "FORM OF EXEMPTION C" (for drug use) or "FORM OF EXEMPTION T" (for thyroid hormone use) to the DCO in charge of doping controls at least one hour before the dog's pre-race veterinary examination.
- **ALWAYS PROHIBITED** : Substances and methods that are never allowed, either before or during the ICF World Championship.
- **PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE (****)** : Substances and/or methods that are not allowed during the event days, from the stake-out opening until its closing (November 7 - November 9, 2025, inclusive). In case any of these substances and/or methods have been used in the 30 days leading up to the ICF World Championship (October 11 – November 6, 2025, inclusive) then a "DECLARATION OF TREATMENT" must be presented at least one hour before the pre-race veterinary examination.

(**) The detection of PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES in a competing dog's biological samples (whether maliciously administered or accidentally assumed or used for medical therapies without previous declaration), or the finding of their undeclared possession as well the evidence of use or attempted use of PROHIBITED METHODS, are always considered doping.

In case of "adverse analytical result" (i.e. "not-negative" result) from the analysis of a first part of sample ("Sample A") the competitor may face disqualification if he/she does not request a counter-analysis on the second part of the sample, kept sealed in the laboratory ("Sample B"), or in case of a "positive" result of this second test.

In case of a "negative" result at first analysis or at counter-analysis the sample will be considered negative.

*(***) Findings of any PROHIBITED or UNDER CONTROL SUBSTANCES in “samples A” are always considered “not negative” (even if used for medical therapies) if a “DECLARATION OF TREATMENT” or a “FORM OF EXEMPTION C” or a “FORM OF EXEMPTION T” were not presented to DCO at least one hour before the dog's pre-race veterinary examination. Only in case of these forms presented before the pre-race veterinary examination, a “positive” doping test will be evaluated taking into consideration the declared use.*

*(****) If PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE substances and/or methods were used therapeutically (i.e., with a veterinary prescription) in the month before the ICF World Championship, the competitor must submit a “DECLARATION OF TREATMENT” to the DCO in charge of doping controls at least one hour before the dog's pre-race veterinary examination.*

3. Forms

Competitors whose dogs received substances and methods within 30 days prior to the Championship or must receive drugs for medical reasons during the competition, must submit specific forms to DCO. These forms completed by the competitor's treating veterinarian must be presented to the DCO one hour before the pre-race veterinary examination. This applies to three scenarios:

- A. **Declaration of Treatment:** Required if the dog was treated in the month preceding the competition with **substances or methods always prohibited or prohibited during the race** (see ANNEX 1).
- B. **Form of Exemption C:** Required if the dog is to remain in therapy during the competition with **substances under control** (see ANNEX 2).
- C. **Form of Exemption T:** Required if the dog is to remain in therapy during the race with **thyroid hormones**. Laboratory test results must also be attached (see ANNEX 3).

Important Note: The mandatory presentation to DCO of the "Form of Exemption C" or "Form of Exemption T" or "Declaration of Treatment" does not guarantee the dog's admission to the competition. The decision will be made on a case-by-case basis by race Veterinarians, considering the dog's clinical presentation at the pre-race examination.

The veterinarians in charge of vet-checks will specifically assess:

- A. The data reported by treating veterinarians on the forms, in relation to the conditions that led to the use of forbidden substances or methods within 30 days before the race, or the conditions justifying the use of controlled substances during the race.
- B. The potential consequences on the dog's health and welfare, whether treated or under treatment, regarding participation in the competition.

➤ **N.B. For more information about the use of prohibited or allowed substances and commercial names of products containing these substances, show this document to your treating Veterinarian and ask for a filled and signed :**

- ***“DECLARATION OF TREATMENT” in case a prohibited substance has been used in the last 30 days before the ICF Championship for medical reasons***
- ***“FORM OF EXEMPTION C” in case a substance must be used during the ICF Championship for medical reasons***
- ***“FORM OF EXEMPTION T” in case a thyroid active drug must be used during the ICF Championship for medical reasons***

➤ **N.B. For more information about doping control rules, contact :**

antidopingicf@canicross.international

PROHIBITED and PERMITTED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS

1) SUBSTANCES AND METHODS ALWAYS PROHIBITED (In and Out of competition)

➤ Substances (and their Metabolites):

(N.B. The substances listed here as i.e. are just in example of those in the same class having similar effects)

- **ANABOLIC AGENTS.**
(i.e. Stanozolole, Nandrolone, Testosterone)
- **PEPTIDE HORMONES, GROWTH FACTORS, RELATED SUBSTANCES AND MIMETICS**
(i.e. EPO, CERA, GnRH, LH, GH)
N.B. excluding those listed as 'Substances Under Control' for genito-urinary system conditions
- **HORMONE AND METABOLIC MODULATORS**
(i.e. Myostatin inhibitors)
- **MASKING AGENTS**
N.B. excluding those listed as "Prohibited during the race"
- **STIMULANTS**
(i.e. Epinefrine, Efedrine, Modafinil, Xantine: Caffeine, Teofilin, Teobromine, Propentofillin, Pentosifillin)
- **SUBSTANCES OF ABUSE**
(i.e. Cocaine, Amfetamine, MDMA)
- **SEDATIVES, ANALGESICS, ANTIEPILEPTICS, NARCOTICS, OPIOIDS**
N.B. excluding those listed as "Prohibited during the race"
- **CANNABINOIDS**
(i.e. THC)

➤ Methods:

- **FORCED FEEDING OR WATERING**
- **INTRAVENOUS INFUSIONS**
N.B. except those used during surgical procedures, medical emergencies or clinical investigations as declared by treating veterinarian in the "Declaration of Treatment"
- **INCREASE OF BLOOD OXYGEN TRANSPORT**
(i.e. auto-hemotransfusion).
- **CHEMICAL OR PHYSICAL MANIPULATION OF SAMPLES**
(i.e. urine substitution, dilution or alteration)

2) SUBSTANCES AND METHODS PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE (In Competition)

TO BE DECLARED WITH "DECLARATION OF TREATMENT" FORM IF USED FOR MEDICAL REASONS IN THE 30 DAYS BEFORE THE COMPETITION

In canine antidoping contexts, all these substances are considered prohibited in the last month before the race, unless explicitly authorized for veterinary medical or surgical treatment.

➤ Substances (and their Metabolites):

- **ANESTHETICS** (*local or general*)
- **ANTIBIOTICS AND ANTIMYCOTICS (for deep or generalized infections)**
(i.e. Amoxicillin, Enrofloxacin ; Ketoconazole, Itraconazole)
N.B. *excluding those for specific conditions of skin, mouth, eye, and ear lesions, listed as 'Substances Under Control'*
- **ANTICHOLINERGICS** (i.e. Atropine, Butylscopolamine)
- **ANTIEMETICS** (i.e. Metoclopramide, Maropitant)
- **ANTIHISTAMINES** (i.e. Diphenhydramine, Cetirizine)
- **ANTIINFLAMMATORY**
N.B. *Injectable and oral preparations, including:*
 - ✓ **Corticosteroids** (i.e. Prednisone/Prednisolone, Dexamethasone, Methylprednisolone, Hydrocortisone, Triamcinolone)
 - ✓ **NSAIDs** (i.e. Carprofen, Meloxicam, Firocoxib, Pentosan polysulfate)
 - ✓ **DMSO**
- **BETA 2 AGONISTS (BRONCHODILATORS)**
(i.e. Clenbuterol, Terbutaline and Salbutamol)
- **CANNABINOIDS** (i.e. CBD) - all products containing CBD in any form such as:
 - Oils and tinctures
 - Capsules
 - Treats and biscuits
 - Topical sprays or gels
 - Water-soluble solutions or powders
 - Supplements
- **COUGH SUPPRESSORS** (i.e. Codeine, Hydrocodone)
- **DIURETICS AND MASKING AGENTS**
(i.e. Furosemide, Torasemide, Acetazolamide, Spironolactone)
- **DRUGS AND PRODUCTS CONTAINING ALCOHOL** (*administered per os*)
- **HORMONES AND DRUGS FOR TREATMENT OF MEDICAL PROBLEMS OF GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM, ADRENAL GLANDS AND PANCREAS**
 - ✓ Hormones for inducing temporary infertility in females (i.e. Medroxyprogesterone, Progestone)
 - ✓ Hormones for inducing temporary infertility in males (i.e. Desloreline).
 - ✓ Hormones for treating benign prostatic hypertrophy (i.e. Osaterone)
 - ✓ Hormones for treating urinary incontinence in spayed females (i.e. Estriol).
 - ✓ Hormones for inducing abortion in cases of accidental mating (i.e. Lotrifene, Aglepristone).
 - ✓ Prolactin inhibitors for suppressing lactation (i.g. Cabergoline, Bromocriptine, Metergoline)
 - ✓ Drugs for Addison's Disease (Hypoadrenocorticism) (i.e. Fludrocortisone acetate, DOCP)
 - ✓ Drugs for Cushing's Disease (Hyperadrenocorticism) (i.e. Trilostane, Mitotane)
 - ✓ Drugs for Diabetes (i.e. Insulin)
- **IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS and IMMUNOSTIMULANTS** (i.e. Cyclosporine; Interferon alpha)
- **MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES FOR CHRONIC PAIN DUE TO OSTEOARTHRITIS** (i.e. Bedinvetmab)
- **MUSCLE RELAXANTS** (i.e. Methocarbamol, Dantrolene)
- **SEDATIVES, ANALGESICS, ANTIEPILEPTICS, NARCOTICS, OPIOIDS** (i.e. Acepromazine, Medetomidine, Phenobarbital, Potassium bromide, Levetiracetam, Gabapentin, Diazepam, Midazolam, Morphine, Methadone, Fentanyl, Buprenorphine, Butorphanol, Tramadol, Codeine)

➤ **Methods:**

- **INJECTIONS:** All injections are prohibited during race days
 - **ACUPUNCTURE:** Acupuncture and any other methods (*Dry-needle, electro-acupuncture, aquapuncture, moxibustion, gold beads implants, laser-acupuncture*) used to stimulate acupuncture points or trigger points are prohibited during race days.
 - **PHYSICAL THERAPIES:** The use of infrared, ultrasound, laser, electromagnetic, and TENS equipment as well as other physiotherapy devices and methods are prohibited during race days
 - **SPINAL AND JOINTS MANIPULATIONS:** Chiropractic, osteopathic, and other spinal or joint manipulation treatments are prohibited during race days
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3) SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL

3.1) PERMITTED FOR SPECIFIC MEDICAL REASONS, TO BE DECLARED WITH "FORM OF EXEMPTION C" (if to be used In Competition)

- **SKIN, MOUTH, EYE, EAR**
 - ✓ Oral antibiotics are permitted *only for the treatment of skin and mouth lesions and wounds*
 - ✓ Topical antibiotics, antimycotics and/or anti-inflammatory (solutions, ointments, gels, creams, eye and ear drops) are permitted *only for skin and paws treatment and protection or as eye and ear treatment.*
- **STOMACH**
 - ✓ Oral H₂ receptor antagonists and proton pump inhibitors (e.g., omeprazole and derivatives, ranitidine, cimetidine, famotidine, sucralfate, etc.) are permitted *to avoid or treat gastric lesions*

3.2) PERMITTED FOR SPECIFIC MEDICAL REASONS, TO BE DECLARED WITH "FORM OF EXEMPTION T" (if to be used In Competition)

- **THYROID**
 - ✓ Thyroid Hormone (****)

(**) EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE USE OF THYROID HORMONE:**

Oral thyroid hormone use before and during the race is permitted only for dogs with a diagnosed thyroid disease, under the specific prescription of the treating veterinarian. This is subject to the following conditions:

At least one hour before the pre-race veterinary inspection, the "FORM OF EXEMPTION T" must be presented to the DCO along with laboratory reports. These reports must include:

- ✓ **Subject and Laboratory Identification:** Identification of the treated subject and the laboratory.

- ✓ **Thyroid Hormone Values:** Values for T₄, Free T₄, and cTSH determined:

A) At the time of diagnosis (values must be below the minimum normal range indicated by the laboratory).

B) At least four weeks after the commencement of hormone therapy (values must not exceed the maximum normal range set by the laboratory).

NB: Scientific research indicates that "Alaskan Husky" dogs may have lower physiological hormone levels (particularly during training and competition periods) compared to standard values for other breeds. According to the literature, the normal range for these subjects is:

- ✓ T₄ = 5.3 to 40.3 nmol/L (0.41 to 3.13 ug/dL)
- ✓ Free T₄ = from 3.0 to 24.0 pmol / L (0.23-1.86 ng / dL)
- ✓ cTSH = 8.0 to 37.0 mU / L (0.1-0.68 ng / mL)

For these subjects the treating veterinarian must take into consideration the therapeutic use of thyroid hormones only if the detection of laboratory values below the minimum, as described above, was accompanied by actual clinical hypothyroidism suspicious symptoms.

+ Effects of racing and nontraining on plasma thyroid hormone Concentrations in sled dogs. Lee JA, Hinchcliff KW, Piercy RJ, Schmidt KE, Nelson S Jr. J Am Vet Med Assoc. 2004 Jan 15; 224 (2): 226-31

+ Alterations in thyroid hormone Concentrations in healthy sled dogs before and after athletic conditioning. Evason MD, Carr AP, Taylor SM, Waldner CL. Am J Vet Res. 2004 Sep; 65 (3): 333-7.

4) SUBSTANCES ALWAYS PERMITTED

PERMITTED BEFORE AND/OR DURING THE COMPETITION WITHOUT RESTRAINTS OR PRESENTATION OF SPECIFIC FORMS, PROVIDED THEY DO NOT CONTAIN INGREDIENTS LISTED AS "ALWAYS PROHIBITED" OR "PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE"

N.B. *BE AWARE THAT SOME OF THESE SUBSTANCES MAY CONTAIN PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (OFTEN NOT LISTED IN THE DECLARATION OF INGREDIENTS), WHICH RESULT POSITIVE AT DOPING TEST !!*

- "Natural," herbal, homeopathic, "traditional Chinese" remedies, supplements, and drugs
- Antidiarrheal adsorbents and gastric protectors gel and syrup (e.g., bentonite, kaolin, pectin, montmorillonite)
- Anthelmintics
- Ear drops and ophthalmic drops and ointments (not containing antibiotics and /or anti-inflammatory)
- Insect repellents, insecticides, acaricides
- Joint protection supplements
- Nutritional supplements
- Prebiotics and probiotics
- Solutions, ointments, oils, gels, and creams for massage
- Solutions, ointments, powders, gels, and creams for dermatological use

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This document (Vers. 1.15.09.25) was prepared and reviewed by:

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-