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International Utility Dogs Commission

of the FCI



Proposal for the amendment of the examination regulations for utility dogs

Basic explanations

At the meeting in March, the FCI Working Dog Commission dealt, among other things, with the general situation of the working dog sport in order to work out the basis for a possible reform of the examinations regulations. It was agreed to make changes only in case of important reasons. In different working groups the questions around the sport of working dogs were dealt with and the following main goals were defined:

1. to make it easier for beginners, simple sportsmen and teams without a professional environment to enter the test.
2. the examination regulations should be checked for animal welfare, health of the dogs and legal requirements.
3. judging standards shall not promote or require training methods that are detrimental to animal welfare.

The UDC Testing Regulations Group has agreed on the following changes in consideration of these goals. It further asks for a statement until **30.11.2023** at the latest.

International Companion Dog Tests FCI-IBGH

FCI IBGH 1

The free heeling will be reduced.

One straight line with 50 steps, one about-turn, running steps, slow steps. No further turns.

In the exercises "Sit" and "Down" the handler may remain standing until the dog has taken the appropriate position.

FCI IBGH 2

The heeling on leash is shortened.

One straight line of 50 paces, one about-turn, running steps, slow steps,. No further turns.

FCI IBGH 3

No changes in the exercises.

Due to the high demand in some countries, an IBGH Special is to be offered as a supplement. Comparable to the IGP-FH, this form consists of 2 individual IBGH3. It is especially suitable for competitions.

International Utility Dog Tests FCI-IGP

The following tests will be canceled:

- **FCI IGP-ZTP**

Since this test was performed only very rarely, it is no longer necessary.

- **The FCI IGP-V**

Due to the simplification of the IGP 1, this test level is no longer needed.

General:

- **Retrieve exercises**

It has been shown that due to the different throwings of the dumbbell and the resulting very different positions of the dumbbell, a consistent evaluation is very difficult. This is especially true for the retrieve over the hurdle and the scaling wall. If the dumbbell lies close behind the hurdle, the free powerful jumping and also the confident approaching of the hurdle can hardly be evaluated evenly. For this reason,

the following should be changed.

A square of 4 x 4 meters is marked after 8 meters from the basic position (retrieve on the flat), or behind the hurdle and the scaling wall.

If the dumbbell is not in this area after the throw, it will be placed in the middle of the square by an assistant.

- **Retrieve over the scaling wall**

To prevent injuries, the scaling wall is placed wider. The height is 160 cm in all levels.

FCI IGP 1

- **Phase A**

The layout of the track, the length and the articles remain unchanged, the dog may be led on a 5 meter leash.

- **Phase B**

Basic principles:

The dog may be loosened up after each exercise (No playing with toys, no feeding). Afterwards a new basic position must be taken.

Heeling on leash: according to the known walking pattern. See the current examination regulations.

Free heeling: (Shorter)

One straight line with 50 steps, turn around, change of steps. No further turns.

Sit Exercise:

The handler may remain standing with the dog until the dog has taken the position.

Down with recall:

The handler may remain standing with the dog until the dog has taken the position.

Jump over the hurdle:

The height of the hurdle is 80 cm. No retrieve over the hurdle. Only one jump like in the current exercise jump over the scaling wall.

Scaling wall:

No change except the height (160cm) of the scaling wall.

Send out with down:

The send out distance is 20 steps

- **Phase C**

- Search for the helper:**

- There are again 2 blinds (5+6) in this exercise.

- Attack on the dog out of motion:**

- After the exercise „defense against an attack from the guarding phase“, the dog is no longer led away, but the helper moves 20 paces away.

- No other changes.

FCI IGP 2

- **Phase A**

- No changes

- **Phase B**

- No retrieve over the scaling wall. Only one jump like in the exercise IGP1.
The height of the scaling wall is 160cm

- **Phase C**

- The exercise back transport is omitted.

FCI IGP 3

- **Phase A**

- no changes

- **Phase B**

- The points for the sit exercise should again be 10 points. For this, the retrieve over the scaling wall should be reduced to 10 points. Justification: If an elementary exercise such as the "Sit" is performed incorrectly (stand or down), an Excellent for the entire obedience should no longer be possible. Retrieve over the scaling wall is much easier compared to retrieve over the hurdle. There is no touching and stepping on for the evaluation.

- The weight of the dumbbell for the exercise retrieve on the flat is reduced to 1 kg.
The height of the scaling wall is 160cm

- **Phase C**

- No changes

FCI Tracking Dog examinations

General

It has become apparent that more and more sportsmen are now specializing in tracking. In order to take this into account, the tracking dog tests are to be structured in 3 levels. The previous tests FCI IFH-V, FCI IFH-1 and FCI IFH-2 will become the levels FCI IFH 1 to 3. We agreed that there should be an even increase of the requirements in the individual levels.

- **FCI-FH 1:** Own track, 800 steps, 4 corners (90°), 3 articles, age of track 90 minutes
- **FCI-FH 2:** Strange track, 1200 paces, 5 corners (90°), 1 acute angle, 5 articles, 2 cross tracks, track age 120 minutes.
- **FCI-FH 3:** Like the previous FH 2, so no changes in the highest level.
- **FCI-FH-Special:** previous FCI IGP-FH. 2 tracks according to FCI-FH 3

Articles search

No changes, but more exact description of execution and judging criteria.

Endurance test

No changes