

Vanaf  
2018

# Regulations for the the International Herding Trials.



Uitgewerkt in opdracht van de commissie  
werkhonden door de,

Wergroep Kuddehonden



Dit reglement werd door de  
werkhondenraad goedgekeurd op  
3 mei 2018 en door het bestuur van de  
raad van beheer geaccordeerd.



## Table of contents:

1. Objective
2. Regulations and General Guidelines
  - 2.1 Organization
  - 2.2 Judges
  - 2.3 Officials
  - 2.4 Location / site layout
  - 2.5 Entries
  - 2.6 Secretariat
  - 2.7 Participants
  - 2.8 Participating dogs
  - 2.9 Championship prize
  - 2.10 First aid post
  - 2.11 Statutory liability
  - 2.12 Committee Work Dogs
3. The terrain and the sheep
4. The course of the tests
5. Appendix: Regulations for the Herding Working Test and the International Herding Trials

## 1. Objective

The sheepdogs and cattedogs are a group with a lot of variety, but with a common origin: they have handling and controlled groups of animals such as cows, pigs, goats, sheep, geese or ducks with and for their boss.

The style in which the dogs carried out their work was determined by the way in which the herds were kept and by the kind of the landscape. Dogs that fit best in the living conditions of the herd and the shepherd were allowed to reproduce.

Just as there are huge differences in the landscapes and in the climate of our world, a great diversity has arisen in the group of shepherd dogs and cattle dogs. Because there is a big difference in working style between Border Collies and dogs of other shepherd breeds, we follow the classification of the FCI in the Netherlands: Test and Competitions for Border Collies the tests and competitions in the Collecting Style and for the other shepherd breeds there are tests and competitions in the Traditional Style.

The specific qualities that dogs need for working with herds, also make them popular with a large audience. A good herd dog has stable behavior, good health to old age, self-control, intelligence, perseverance, obedience, the will to work with his boss and other dogs, and of course the sheepdog instinct: the tendency to keep groups of animals together and to exercise control over it.

The objective of Tests and Competitions for Herd Dogs is to motivate enthusiasts to train their dogs in their original work. In all other dog sports a number of all characteristics of a dog are addressed. In order to be able to complete these tests in the original work, a dog must possess the qualities of a shepherd dog. The regulations leave room for the differences in working style, so shepherd and dog can take the course in the style that suits the breed of the dog.

A second objective is to encourage breeders to appreciate dogs that perform well in the original work when selecting their breeding animals.

For example, this program can contribute to retaining or restoring the innate qualities that make the sheepdogs and cattle dogs so popular, in the pedigree dogs.

## 2. Regulations and General Guidelines

In these regulations, the following definitions apply:

- a) **FCI:** the Fédération Cynologique Internationale;
- b) **Raad van Beheer:** the Dutch Kennel Club
- c) **Comissie werkhonden:** the Working Dogs Committee, referred to in the Cynological Regulations;
- d) **Richtlijnen:** on the basis of the Cynologisch Reglement further rules, decisions and regulations set by the Working Dogs Committee;
- e) **Vereniging:** the association referred to in the Cynological Regulations;
- f) **Keurmeester:** a judge appointed by the Dutch Kennel Club;
- g) **Examen en wedstrijdreglement:** the regulations for tests with herding dogs;
- h) **Organisator:** the association that organizes a test or trial, or the board or secretary of this association;
- i) **Herding:** tests and trials in accordance with the FCI Herding Regulations
- j) **K.R.:** Cynological Regulations; The regulations established by the Dutch Kennel Club.

### 2.1 Organisation

Tests and trials for Herding dogs may be organized by:

- Breed associations affiliated to the Dutch Kennel Club that represent the interests of breeds which, given their origin, must be considered capable of doing this work;
- Cynologist clubs affiliated to the Dutch Kennel Club;
- Dog sports clubs affiliated to the Dutch Kennel Club.

They take place under the auspices of the Commission Working Dogs of the Dutch Kennel Club and according to the Herding Rules of the FCI.

The following tests can be organized:

- a) Natural Herding Aptitude Test, according to the rules of the FCI with additional provisions for Dutch participants
- b) Herding Working Test
- c) International Herding Trials, classes 1, 2 and 3

For the organization of the NHAT, the following additional provisions apply to Dutch participants:

#### Introduction:

The FCI Natural Herding Aptitude Test (NHAT) is an entry test approved by the FCI for the HWT. The Dutch policy requires a good behavioral test for dogs that will participate in competitions or tests. This way dogs with severe aggression or fear can be excluded from participation, as a result possible serious bite incidents are prevented as much as possible.

### Established:

As an reinforcement for, and in line with, the current Dutch policy, it has therefore been established that all dogs, of owners living in the Netherlands who are registered for an HWT for the first time, must have passed the NHAT with a good result in which:

1. The social part must be judged by a by the Commission Cynological Instructor (CKI) certified dog trainer or behavioral therapist.
2. The herding dog aptitude part must be judged by a Dutch or foreign Herding judge.

If a dog living in the Netherlands has passed the NHAT abroad, it is required for participation in herding dog tests in the Netherlands that the dog successfully completes the VZH examination in the Netherlands or completes the NHAT with the Dutch appendix in the Netherlands.

If a dog living in the Netherlands, in a later stage, is disqualified by a Herding judge because of a serious bite incident, one is obliged to pass the NHAT with the Dutch appendix or the VZH with good results before to enter test and trials.

*The disqualification for a serious bite incident will be described in the logbook as: **Social Disc***

-A serious bite incident is defined as: the infliction of a serious injury to humans or animals (see also Article IV.25 of the Cynological regulations).

Such an incident must be reported, in writing, to the Working Dogs Committee by the judge and the competition leader.

Foreign judges are informed of the Dutch policy in this. The organizing association is responsible for informing the judges invited by it.

These provisions are valid from 01-01-2018.

### 2.2 Judges

Judges must be invited by the organization in writing (through the appropriate form on the website of the Dutch Kennel Club / Working Dogs Committee (CWH)) and this invitation must be confirmed by the judge in writing, i.e. by mail or by E-mail.

Only judges appointed by the Dutch Kennel Club or one of its foreign sister organizations affiliated to the FCI are eligible for an invitation. They must be qualified for the style in which the Tests and / or Trials are being held, Collecting Style or Traditional Style.

The judges must adhere to the guidelines and the rules of this program and respect them. They should also take account of the program's objective when assessing the tests, with the emphasis on the welfare of the participating dogs and the sheep.

The judge may not interfere with or influence the working dog by his attitude.

The judge is responsible for the correct application of the regulations in force. In the event of non-compliance with the regulations, the judge can cancel the test or the trial. Tests and trials can be organized in the Netherlands as far as the weather conditions and regulations for keeping sheep allow. At expected temperatures up to -10 ° C and above + 30 ° C the event should be canceled. If the health of humans and / or animals is at risk during the event, the relevant event must be canceled. The official judge takes this decision.

### 2.3 Officials

The organization provides a secretariat, a contest leader, a writer, someone who changes the sheep and a general assistant.

#### Course director

The Course director is responsible for the complete organization of the event. He / she is responsible for all preparations for the event and ensures correct implementation. He / she is responsible for the smooth running of the event and must be available to the judge during the entire day.

His responsibility includes, among other things:

- The care for the admissions
- Contest terrain with accommodation for all classes;
- Terrain owners and sheep farmers;
- Providing skilled personnel;
- Fixing a closure date;
- Ensure that the necessary appliances are made available;
- Ensure that all test forms are available for all classes;
- Checking the pedigree dog logbook, identification of the dog, vaccination certificate and insurance conditions.

The Course director must inform the judge at least one week before the tests of the place and starting time, the nature of the tests and the number of dogs. If this is omitted then the judge has the right to withdraw from his commitment.

- 1 month before the date of the event and in case of foreign judges at least four months before the event, arranging the approval for the event to be held;
- Searching for suitable areas for all parts of the event and obtaining permission for its use;
- Making available all necessary and completed forms to the judge (test forms and evaluation reports).

A course director can not participate in the event.

### 2.4 Location

The organization will ensure proper terrain layout in accordance with the FCI Herding Regulations and the regulations of the Working Dogs Committee.

## 2.5 Entries

The organization will ensure the publication of the program, stating the manner in which can be registered and the closing date of the registration.

The registrations must be made in writing or digitally and the registration fee must be paid in advance.

In no case there will be repayment of the registration fee. Registration required for payment. The organization has the right to refuse registration on grounds of reasonableness and fairness. The closing date for registration is no later than one week before the start of the tests or as soon as the maximum number of registrations has been reached in accordance with the regulations.

## 2.6 Secretariat

The secretariat provides the test forms and compiles the catalog. In any case, the catalog must contain the names of the judge and the contest leader, the details of the participating dogs and the owners / handlers plus an alphabetical list of the participants.

Every participant and official receives a catalog.

For visitors there must be a possibility to obtain a catalog.

After the registration period is closed, it is not allowed to add or replace participants in the catalog.

On the day of the tests, the secretariat checks at the start the documents of the participants (copy of the pedigree, pedigree dog logbook, membership card of an association that is affiliated with the Dutch Kennel Club and from the foreign participants the rabies vaccination certificate).

Each participant is issued a start number that corresponds to the catalog number of the dog and that must be worn during the relevant test. The secretariat administers the results, completes the breed dog logbooks and ensures that the necessary documents are signed by the judge (s) and the contest leader. A scoreboard with the order and catalog numbers of the participating dogs and the results is mandatory.

The organization ensures that the results obtained are published on a website and send them to the secretariat of the Dog Work Committee within five working days after the date of the tests.

## 2.7 Participants

Participants wear a carrier number during their presentation that corresponds with the number stated in the catalog.

The dogs may be presented by a person other than the owner. This must be mentioned when registering. At least one hour before the start of the trial in which one participate, one must check in at the secretariat. During the test, it is not allowed to replace the handler. Each owner and, if the dog is presented by a handler, the handler must be a member of an association affiliated to the FCI.

Each year you can only compete for one club or association. Dogs which are owned by the judge (s) or their partner (s) may not participate in the tests.

Participants must ensure that they are in time for the test. They are not called up. In the event of no or late appearance, the judge decides whether the participant may still participate later. Throughout the entire event, from start to finish, the regulations for tests for working

herding dogs apply on the handler and the dog.

A leash is required for all dogs present, except for the dog that is on the course.

## 2.8 Participating dogs

At a NHAT may be participated by dogs from Dutch owners who are at least 9 months old and at a Herding Working Test by dogs of at least one year old, belonging to a breed listed in Annex 1 of the General conditions for the organization of FCI international Herding events. The ban on cropping of the FCI / Dutch Kennel Club is in force.

Bitches in heat may participate, but will be placed at the end of their class. They are not allowed to enter the field before they start, if this does happen, it will lead to disqualification. The order of the participating dogs is determined by drawing. Except during a NHAT it is not permitted that participating dogs wear a collar, chain or harness during the test. The participating dogs fall under the responsibility of the owner or the handler and perform the exercises entirely voluntarily.

### Identity check.

Prior to participating in the tests, the judge will check the identity of the dogs.

This check is a mandatory part of the test. This can be done by checking the tattoo number or chip number.

If the tattoo number is not clearly visible, the recognizable characters must be included on the results list. The tattoo number or chip number must match the number on the pedigree handed over by the handler.

The judge must confirm on the official evaluation reports that this check has been carried out.

If the tattoo is not legible, special characteristics of the dog must be noted in the (breed) dog logbook or the International passport by the judge.

In the case of a defective chip or a chip that can't be found, the judge may take the dog's description and then have it taken part in the trial. The logbook then states that the handler must offer the dog the next trial with a chip to be read.

If this is not possible, the result of the previous trial will be destroyed. The dog may only participate again if identification is possible. Of all this, the judge will make a report to the working dogs committee.

Dog handlers who have purchased the dog abroad, and foreign participants, must ensure that the check can be carried out and should provide a working recording equipment. Dogs that can't be identified and do not have clear individual characteristics can't participate in the tests.

### Health check

During the identity check the judge assesses whether the externally observable condition of the participating dogs enables them to participate. The judgment of the judge is binding on all parties. In case of fatigue or showing aggressive behavior, the judge is entitled to interrupt the test and to exclude the dog from further participation for that day. Also the owner / handler is at all times entitled to end an exercise and to withdraw the dog if he / she thinks that the welfare of the dog (or the sheep) is at stake.

## 2.9 Championship prize

2.9.1 A Dutch Herding championship prize will be awarded to the dog who, on a Herding Trial in class III held in the Netherlands, achieves the highest number of points in accordance with a regulation set by the Working Dogs Committee, provided that at least the qualification Very Good is achieved, at least two other dogs participated and the dog has reached the age of two years.

For an awarded Herding championship prize, the Dutch Kennel Club makes a diploma available to the Owner of the dog.

The title "Dutch Herding Champion" is awarded to the dog that won two Dutch Herding Trials championship prizes, provided

- a. the prizes have been achieved in two calendar years with a gap of at least six months,
- b. under two different judges and that the dog at an Exhibition or championship clubmatch as referred to in Chapter IV of the K.R. has achieved the qualification "excellent" or "very good" at the age of at least 15 months.

When awarding the title "Dutch Herding Champion", the Dutch Kennel Club makes available to the Dog Owner a champion cross and diploma.

2.9.2 The title "Herding champion I with year", "Herding champion II with year" or "Herding champion III with year" is awarded to the dog, in the year in question at a Championship to be held annually in the Netherlands in Herding Trial class I, Herding Trial class II or Herding Trial class III, who has achieved the best results in accordance with regulations established by the Working Dogs Committee, provided the dog has reached the age of two years at the time of the competition.

In awarding the title "Herding champion I with year", "Herding champion II with year" and "Herding champion III with year", the Dutch Kennel Club makes a diploma available to the owner of the dog.

## 2.10 First aid post

The organization ensures the presence of a first aid post where it is clearly indicated where to find an AED.

At the secretariat, a simple emergency plan should be available for organization, volunteers and judge.

The plan includes the following:

1. The course of an evacuation
2. A gathering place
3. Accessibility / passability for emergency services
4. A current telephone list containing the following information:
  - The nearest hospital
  - The nearest duty doctor
  - The nearest duty veterinarian
  - The nearest animal ambulance
  - The local police station



### 2.11 Legal liability

For any accidents during the entire event, the handler / owner is liable for himself and his dog.

The owner of the dog is liable for all personal and business damage caused by his dog. The owner and the handler must both have taken out third-party liability insurance. The instructions given by the organization or by the judge are voluntarily accepted by the owner / handler and carried out at her/his own risk.

The organizing association must have a third party liability insurance.

### 2.12 Committee Work Dogs

At the end of each year an annual report is made about the past Test and competition season. This report will be included in the annual report of the Work Dogs Committee and must be sent to the Work Dogs Committee before 5 January.

In consultation with the Work Dogs Committee, any corrections may be made in the regulations. The Work Dogs Committee submits these corrections to the Dutch Kennel Club for approval.

## 3. The field and the sheep

### The sheep

The organization will ensure a sufficient number of sheep in good health and of about the same type and behavior as prescribed in the FCI Herding Regulations.

The sheep must be well accustomed to being moved by dogs of different breeds.

The preparation of the sheep means that they are regularly moved by dogs with different conformation, movement pattern and work style. The sheep are not allowed to show a panic reaction in the Traditional Style when the dog quietly does his work to a distance of about 5 meters.

This preparation ensures that the sheep do not experience stress or panic and all participants are offered the same conditions as possible.

The sheep must meet the current requirements of the government for sheep farming. Sheep that are visibly pregnant or still suckle their lamb should not be used, nor should lambs that are not yet weaned.

Sheep resting outside the competition area must, if necessary, be cared for with shade, hay and water.

### The field

There must be a fence between the spectator section and the competition area. The fences used for the pen must be sturdy enough and suitable for keeping sheep inside and dogs out.

## 4. The course of the tests

The tests will be conducted according to the regulations for Herding of the FCI and of the Committee Working Dogs of the Dutch Kennel Club.

## 5. The FCI Rules

The following rules you can find on the FCI website:

In the menu Regulations - Herding Dogs

5.1 GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF FCI INTERNATIONAL HERDING EVENTS (NHAT – HWT – IHT)

5.2 FCI RULES FOR NATURAL HERDING APTITUDE TESTS “FCI NHAT”

5.3 FCI RULES FOR HERDING WORKING TESTS COLLECTING STYLE (FCI HWT CS)  
*(for Border Collie exclusively)*

5.4. FCI RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL HERDING TRIALS COLLECTING STYLE “FCI IHT CS” *(for Border Collie exclusively)*

5.5 FCI RULES FOR HERDING WORKING TESTS TRADITIONAL STYLE (FCI HWT TS)  
*(excluding Border Collie)*

5.6 FCI RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL HERDING TRIALS TRADITIONAL STYLE “FCI IHT TS” *(excluding Border Collie)*

5.7 FCI Regulations for awarding the CACITR at FCI International Herding Trials

5.8 In het menu “International Championship” zie: TITLE OF INTERNATIONAL **HERDING CHAMPION (C.I.TR.)**