

SPECIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

S/L	HND	HV	H0	H1	H2	H3
Number of obstacles	10–15				15–20	20–25
Distance between obstacles	4–8 m				5–10 m	6 m+
Max distance of guiding area from obstacle	12 m				18 m	30 m
Minimum dog age on competition day	18 months	10 years	15 months	18 months		
Course walk time	8–10 min					
Max number of teams during course walk	15					
Guiding area external size	2×2 m		5×5 m	2×2 m		
Advancement to higher category	X			5× pass with grade Exc. from min. 2 judges		X
Maximum run time	4 min					

EVALUATION OVERVIEW

SITUATION	FAULT	REFUSAL	NOTE	DIS
Intentional handler–dog contact resulting in advantage	✓		Not valid for HND and HV	
Dog moves obstacle and gains advantage	✓			
Turning obstacle that does not repeat in course	✓			
Handler not standing with both feet inside square/circle during obstacle	✓		Valid for H0, not for HND and HV	
Wrong-side entry to barrel/gate, crossing obstacle line or jumping obstacle		✓	Uncorrectable refusal	✓
Dog fully or partially crosses obstacle line without completing obstacle		✓	Uncorrectable refusal	✓
Dog exits tunnel on wrong side		✓	Uncorrectable refusal	✓
Inappropriate behaviour towards judge				✓
Rough handling of dog (also outside the course during competition)				✓
Aggressive behaviour towards dogs or people (also outside course)				✓
Dog working under pressure / visibly stressed				✓
Exceeding maximum course time			Judge may adjust max time for handicapped team	✓
Incorrect obstacle order				✓
Skipping an obstacle without correction				✓
Completing obstacle in wrong direction				✓
Team disqualified after three unsuccessful attempts on one obstacle				✓
Dog or handler damages				✓

obstacle preventing correct completion				
Three refusals				✓
Handler holds any object in hand on course			Not valid for HND and HV	✓
Dog wears anything on neck during run			Not valid for HND and HV	✓
Leash, training skirt, toys or non-clothing items left on course				✓
Handler stops the dog on course				✓
Dog leaves course or is not under handler control				✓
Dog persistently bites handler				✓
Dog marks or urinates on obstacle or course				✓
Start before judge's signal				✓
Handler steps out of square/circle with full foot after first obstacle			Not valid for H0, HND, HV	✓
Dog crosses any obstacle while handler not yet in square/circle			Not valid for H0, HND, HV	✓
Correction of start position (if the dog fully or partially didn't crossed obstacle line) after 3 attempts when handler was in square/circle				✓
Exceeding 1-minute time limit to start run				✓
Returning dog to start after first obstacle				✓
Dog moving on course between/over obstacles before start				✓
Throwing toy or reward after last obstacle inside course area				✓
Double handling (verbal or motion guidance from outside course)				✓

Note for foreign judges about building courses:

- Before the start and after the finish line, there must be sufficient free space of at least 6 meters.
- No obstacle may be placed inside the circle / square, except in the H0 category, where a maximum of 1 obstacle is allowed inside the square.
- Obstacles that do not directly follow each other must be spaced at least 3 meters apart.
- The minimum distance between an obstacle and the guiding area is 2 meters, with the exception of the H0 category.