



Vaccination Regulations

Approved by the Board on 16.8.2018, valid as of 16.8.2018

Dog shows, trials and competitions as well as other organized canine events (later referred to as event) in Finland are subject to Vaccination Regulations approved by the Finnish Kennel Club's Board. The organizer of the event has a duty to make sure that vaccination regulations have been followed. A dog's vaccination certificate must clearly state the dog's identification details as well as the expiration date of the vaccination administered to the dog in accordance with the summary of product characteristics for the vaccine in question. In order to attend an event, a dog must have the following valid vaccinations:

Canine distemper vaccination:

A dog must be vaccinated against canine distemper at least twice. On the day of the event, at least 21 days must have passed since the administration of the booster vaccination (three-week withdrawal period). A booster vaccination administered to a dog less than one year old is valid for one year. Booster vaccinations administered to a dog that is at least one year old are valid in accordance with the summary of product characteristics for the vaccine in question.

Rabies vaccination:

On the day of the event, at least 21 days must have passed since the administration of the dog's first vaccination against rabies (three-week withdrawal period).

A vaccination administered to a dog less than one year old is valid for one year. Vaccinations administered to a dog that is at least one year old are valid in accordance with the summary of product characteristics for the vaccine in question.

Withdrawal period for vaccinations against canine distemper and rabies:

If a dog's vaccination has expired, the vaccination must in all cases be renewed at least 21 days before the event (three-week withdrawal period).

Calculation of the three-week withdrawal period

A dog may attend an event the day after the withdrawal period has ended, i.e. on the 22nd day after the administration of the vaccination.

Further instructions for dog owners and veterinarians:

(depending on the case, a veterinarian may also recommend another vaccination programme)

The dog must have a vaccination record (vaccination data in the Finnish Kennel Club's mobile application Omakoira App, a vaccination certificate or a pet passport). The vaccination record must include the expiration date of the vaccination, identification data of the dog and previous vaccinations.

The veterinarian must record the expiration date of the vaccination into the dog's vaccination certificate.

The first vaccination against canine distemper (the vaccine includes protection against canine distemper, but also often infectious hepatitis, parvo diarrhoea, and kennel cough) is recommended to be administered to a 12-week-old puppy. The booster vaccination is administered 4 weeks after the first vaccination. The first vaccination against rabies is administered to a puppy at the age of 4 months at the earliest. Simultaneous administration of vaccinations is not recommended. Previous vaccinations must be recorded by a veterinarian in the pet passport or other vaccination certificate. Depending on the situation, it may also be well-founded to renew the vaccination against kennel cough before attending tests, competitions or dog shows.

Dogs arriving from abroad are, in addition to the Finnish Kennel Club's Vaccination Regulations, subject to the Finnish Food Authority's valid regulations.

NB! The Finnish Kennel Club's Vaccination Regulations may differ from the vaccination requirements for import. Valid requirements are found on the website of the [Finnish Food Authority](#).

Other regulations regarding infectious diseases

If a dog contracts canine distemper, infectious hepatitis, kennel cough or some other similar infectious respiratory tract infection, parvo virus diarrhoea or some other infectious inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract, the dog in question may not attend an event before it has been symptom-free for at least two weeks. The same restriction applies to symptom-free dogs of the same household. Parasitic infections (both external and internal) must be duly treated before the dog may attend an event.