

# Rules for Junior Handling competitions

Approved by the Council on 26.5.2013

Valid from 1.1.2014



## 1 Purpose of Junior Handling competitions

The purpose of Junior Handling competitions is to increase and develop dog activities among youth as well as to improve cooperation between dogs and youth. Junior Handling teaches the young how to highlight the best qualities of the dog in the show ring and how the handler can make judging easier for the officiating judge.

## 2 Nature of Junior Handling competitions

Junior Handling competitions are:

- 1 General
- 2 Limited: District Championship competitions, Finnish Championship finals, finals at title shows

## 3 Right of participation and restrictions

The contestant can participate in Junior Handling competitions the year he or she turns 10 years old. The right of participation ends at the end of the year the contestant turns 17 years old.

The dog showed in Junior Handling must be a pedigree dog and registered in a studbook recognised by the FCI. Participation in Junior Handling is not allowed

- With an ill dog
- With a dog that is docked or cropped contrary to Finnish law
- With a dog that is younger than 9 months

The dog must be one that can be safely changed to another contestant upon the judge's request.

If the dog shown in a Junior Handling competition has its quality grading scheduled to be carried out the same time as the Junior Handling competition, the dog must participate in the quality grading.

The participation is not hindered

- by the dog's testicular defect or castration
- if the dog's colour is not compatible with the breed standard
- if the dog is missing teeth or has an abnormal bite

## 4 Conflicts of interest

The Finnish Kennel Club's General Rule for Conflicts of Interest in force at the time are observed at Junior Handling competitions.

## 5 Anti-Doping

The Finnish Kennel Club's Anti-Doping Regulations in force at the time are observed at Junior Handling competitions.

## **6 Aggressive dogs**

If the dog has behaved aggressively towards another dog or a human at the show venue, a report of the dog's aggressive behaviour must be filed in accordance with the Finnish Kennel Club's valid instructions complementing dog show regulations and the rules for organising dog shows

## **7 Granting the right to organise Junior Handling competitions**

Junior Handling competitions can be organised at official dog shows or at some other event granted by the Finnish Kennel Club.

## **8 Informing about Junior Handling competitions**

Information of Junior Handling competitions must be given in accordance with the instructions for organising dog shows. Details of judges of Junior Handling competitions must be published at the same time as the information of other judges officiating at the show is published. The organiser must send the said information to the Finnish Kennel Club for publishing together with the other details of the show.

## **9 Moving the date of the competition or cancelling the competition**

The Finnish Kennel Club's General Rule for Moving or Cancelling Trials and Competitions in force at the time is observed at Junior Handling competitions.

## **10 Judges**

The judge must be familiar with Junior Handling, dog shows, and how several different breeds are handled. The judge must be 20–80 years old.

The same rights and obligations applying to exterior judges apply also to Junior Handling judges.

## **11 Entering Junior Handling competitions and absence**

The entry period for a Junior Handling competition is the same as the entry period for the dog show or the event where the Junior Handling competition is held. It is not possible to enter to an official competition at the show venue.

A specific form for entering Junior Handling competitions is used.

## **12 Entry fees**

Every year, the Finnish Kennel Club's Youth Committee sets an entry fee.

If the contestant is not taking part in the competition, the organiser must be informed about this before the competition begins. The entry fee is refunded if

- the contestant becomes ill and the illness is verified with a medical certificate
- the contestant is subject to a conflict of interest due to change of judge
- the competition to which the contestant has entered is a Finnish Championship event, and the contestant has already won a Finnish Championship event during the same year.

## **13 Critiques**

The judge places the five best contestants in each age group. The winners of both groups compete against each other of the victory in the contest.

The contestant must compete with the same dog during the whole contest, unless the judge changes dogs between contestants or brings so called change dogs to the ring.

#### **14 Classes**

The contestants are divided into two age groups: 10–13 year olds and 14–17 year olds. The contestant starts to compete in the older age group in the beginning of the year during which he or she turns 14 years old.

#### **15 Finnish Championship events**

Finnish Championship events are organised annually, one in each kennel district as well as one at a dog show organised by the Finnish Kennel Club. A Finnish Championship event must be organised at an international dog show or a national all breed dog show. Two Finnish Championship events cannot be held on the same date.

A judge may officiate only at one Finnish Championship event per year. A judge who has officiated at a Finnish Championship event may not officiate at the Finnish Championship final the same year

The winner of the Finnish Championship event must be a Finnish citizen. The winner of a Finnish Championship event may no longer participate in any other Finnish Championship events the same year.

#### **16 District Championship competition**

Youth living within the area of the district concerned may participate in the District Championship competition.

The District Championship competition is organised as a separate competition for those contestants who have entered to the open competition held on the same day.

#### **17 Finnish Championship finals**

Winners of Finnish Championship events held during the year in question are entitled to participate in the Finnish Championship final competition. Contestants participating in the Finnish Championship Final must be Finnish citizens and members of the Finnish Kennel Club.

#### **18 Injuries to the dog**

The performance of the contestant is interrupted if the dog gets injured. The contestant may continue the competition with another dog upon permission of the judge.

#### **19 Responsibility issues**

The dog owner is responsible for the dog used in the competition.

#### **20 Results**

The results of Junior Handling competitions must be published together with other results of the dog show in question.

The organiser of the competition must send the results of the Finnish Championship event and the complete results from the District Championship competition to the Finnish Kennel Club, within four weeks after the competition. The results are addressed to the official in charge of matters related to Junior Handling.

The complete results include the names of the winner and the runners-up as well as their respective

placements.

### **21 Amendments to the rules**

The Finnish Kennel Club's Youth Committee prepares and the Board proposes amendments to these rules. Amendments to the rules are subject to approval of the Council of the Finnish Kennel Club.

### **22 Complaints and disagreements**

Complaints of Junior Handling competitions must be lodged as provided for under the valid appeal procedure authorised by the Finnish Kennel Club.

### **23 Departure from the rules**

The Finnish Kennel Club's Board may limit the right of participation for a valid reason or issue other orders concerning the realisation of the competition.