



INTERNATIONAL RESCUE DOG ORGANISATION

GUIDELINE

INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITION

for the holding of International Team Competitions

used in calculating the allocation of funds

from Sponsor's Donations

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C H A N G E S

Date	Changes
18.1.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'IRO Team Mission Exercise' changed into 'Int. Team Competition' throughout the guideline – changes not made visible on the margin
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The last changes of the guideline for IRO Tests will be made visible on the margin!

GUIDELINE

for the holding of International Team Competitions
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The application for holding an International Team Competition has to be directed to the IRO office. Deadline for application is June 20 of the preceding year.

Aim: It is the aim of the International Team Competition to prepare the rescue dog teams for real deployment situations on national level and to evaluate them. The competition does not replace the IRO Mission Readiness Test (MRT) for international deployment.

The International Team Competition has to be carried out in two disciplines of nose work (e.g. tracking, area and rubble) at the minimum and can include further work areas. As a minimum 6 search works should be carried out – area and rubble search should be prioritised to tracking search. The number of hiding persons should always be between 10 and 14. Further worksites are first aid, night march, roping exercise. These worksites can not count more than 50 % of the total number of worksites (e.g. at 5 searches not more than 2; at 6 searches not more than 3)

- 1) Each team (consisting of 3 dog handlers and 3 dogs) has to work at all worksites. The decision how many dogs/dog handlers are deployed at each worksite can be taken by the team. Anyway the evaluator has the right to let the dogs work alone on the worksite for part of the time.
- 2) The **nomination of evaluators** for the nose work is done by the IRO spokesperson for training. The initial request for the evaluators is made by the IRO office. After positive answer by the evaluator the organising NRO is informed and further contact has then directly to be made by the NRO.

The allocation of evaluators for the disciplines of nose work is done by the IRO spokesperson for training and announced to the organising NRO before the competition begins.

3) **Evaluation**

If a team does not show up at the worksite or a dog handler inflicts cruelty to a dog the whole team is immediately disqualified.

If a dog is aggressive and hurts a hiding person the dog and his dog handler are disqualified immediately.

Each team can be awarded a maximum of 100 points for the behaviour of the group (tactics, work-sharing, leading, communication, safety security, alerts,

discipline and general behaviour) at each worksite. For each search work there is a period of 30 minutes available. The respective tactical specifications for each worksite have to be determined by the organiser and have to be implemented for all teams by the evaluators.

For each hiding person found 100 points are awarded. A person can only be counted once per team. Search time, if within the given limits, is not evaluated.

Points

If the dog is supported with the alert the hiding person can not be counted/evaluated.

Satisfactory	Good	Very good	Excellent
70 %	80 %	90 %	100 %
alert is short or alert is triggered by dog handler; dog leaves hiding person after alert; Hiding person is found!	alert is done well but barking is stopped at some point; dog partly needs support from dog handler	alert is done very well, but could be more target-oriented, intense and with more drive	none or only little limitation of the alert

For each false alert 30 points are deducted.

For the first aid exercise a maximum of 100 points can be awarded.

For the roping exercise, if completed by the whole team, a maximum of 100 points can be awarded. Roping equipment of dog handler and dog and rope technique are evaluated as well. For each dog handler who does not do the roping 33 points are deducted.

In order to complete the International Team Competition positively 70 % of the possible total points have to be gained and 70 % of the hiding persons have to be found. The result decision shall be final.

- 4) The invitation to the test must be sent by the organizing NRO to all NROs of the IRO and simultaneously to the IRO office. The current address list of members must be requested from the IRO office.

The invitation must include the place and date of the event, the planned work sites, a contact and registration address, the registration deadline and the registration fee.

- 5) The registration deadline is to be set at four weeks prior to the date of the event. Late entries will only be accepted if they can be accommodated without difficulty and no change in the roster of evaluators is required. They are to be discussed with the IRO spokesperson for training.

6) **Important**

Dog handlers of IRO-NROs that participate in the Sponsor's Recruitment have priority over other dog handlers regarding approval to participate in the event.

The dates listed in the invitation have to be adhered to; an extension or reduction is only possible when compelling and sufficient reasons are given. Furthermore this has to be consulted with the IRO spokesperson for training.

The IRO spokesperson for training has to be informed via the IRO office of the total number of participants within 5 days after the deadline.

A confirmation of registration has to be sent to the teams or their respective NRO in a timely fashion and must include a schedule, or at least the beginning times for each test-day, as well as directions for reaching the site.

- 7) Evaluators have to be provided with evaluation sheets of the IRO. For the announcement of the final results a form is available for download at the IRO homepage.
- 8) Immediately after the International Team Competition the result lists (not ranking lists) signed by the competition manager have to be forwarded to the IRO office. The result list must clearly show the respective NRO-membership of each starter / team.
- 9) Adjustment to the Mission Readiness Test or the INSARAG recommendations respectively: further regulations, scenarios and equipment of the dog (e.g. no collar during search on rubble) should be in line with the rules and regulations for the Mission Readiness Test Criteria as far as possible.

Expense reports for the evaluators are available through the IRO office. They are to be requested by the NRO and submitted by the judges to the IRO office within 4 weeks after the end of the International Team Competition. For the evaluators IRO covers the travel costs, daily fees and the costs of room and breakfast. The rates as determined in the World Championship Manual apply.

If the organizers do not act according to this guideline, it may be a decision of the spokesperson for training to cancel the event from the list of events, which are used in calculating the allocation of funds from sponsor's donations. If the International Team Competition will be held although, the organization has to bear all costs related to the competition.

Dr. Resi Gerritsen

IRO Spokesperson for Training and Judges