

Nordic Kennel Union, NKU

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GENERAL REGULATIONS
for
NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIP
COMPETITIONS
in
RALLY OBEDIENCE



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Content

1.	APPLICATION PROCEDURE.....	3
2.	JUDGES.....	3
2.1.	Conditions for Judges at Nordic Championships (NOM) in Rally Obedience.....	3
2.2.	Ineligibility due to the likelihood of bias.....	4
2.3.	Chief Judge, Ring Judges.....	4
3.	SECRETARIES AND HELPERS.....	5
4.	GENERAL LAYOUT OF THE NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIP (NOM).....	5
5.	NUMBER OF COMPETITORS, ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE AND TO REPRESENT A COUNTRY	6
6.	ENTRY FEE	6
7.	INFORMATION ON SPECIAL REGULATIONS OF THE HOST COUNTRY	6

These general regulations have been compiled to promote the sport of Nordic Rally Obedience and to support competitive FCI Rally Obedience across national borders. They are applied at FCI Rally Obedience Nordic Championship Competitions and must be followed from 1.1.2025.

The Nordic Rally Obedience Commission will deal with matters that are exceptions to the regulations mentioned below and with other questions that have not been dealt with in these general regulations for the Nordic Championship in Rally Obedience.

1. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Only one Nordic Championship (NOM) in Rally Obedience is arranged per year.

It is recommended that the annual Nordic Championship (NOM) in Rally Obedience is always held within the period from September to the end of November, considering the date of the Rally Obedience World Championship where there ideally should be at least three weekends between the Championships.

The Nordic Championship (NOM) in Rally Obedience should be arranged as an indoor competition. The ring must be entirely covered with a non-slip surface.

2. JUDGES

2.1. Conditions for Judges at Nordic Championships (NOM) in Rally Obedience

Judges at the Nordic Championship (NOM) in Rally Obedience must have broad experience in judging FCI Rally Obedience Competitions. They must understand and speak English. All information, commands and instructions at the Nordic Championship (NOM) must be given in English.

All judges for the Nordic Championship (NOM) must be invited in consultation with the Nordic Rally Obedience Commission.

In appointing the judges, the Nordic Rally Obedience Commission should consider the experience and language skills of the judges as well as the activity of the Rally Obedience Sport in the countries from which the judges are appointed. The judge must have broad experience in judging (the FCI class) and must actively compete in rally obedience within the last three years.

When inviting a judge, the host NCO (country) must take care of the necessary formalities with the NCOs concerned e.g., checking of the competence.

Judges should dress appropriately to the prestige of the competition.

In case of a possible complaint against the judging during Nordic Championships (NOM) in Rally Obedience any decision made by the judge is final and undisputable.

2.2. Ineligibility due to the likelihood of bias

Judges are not permitted to judge dogs owned by themselves, family members or relatives such as children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers or sisters. Neither are they allowed to judge household members or residents of their household.

Matters of ineligibility should be dealt with within two weeks of the latest entry date.

2.3. Chief Judge, Ring Judges

The judging team at the Nordic Championship (NOM) in Rally Obedience consists of four judges, one from each of the Nordic countries.

In case a judge is prevented from judging, the Championship continues with the remaining judges.

The Chief Judge

The chief judge is the chairman of the judges' team. The chief judge comes from the host country. The chief judge is one of the four judges.

The chief judge is the Chair of the judging team and therefore also acts as Chair for the judges' meeting and for any meetings arranged with the team leaders or competitors. The chief judge is the contact person between the judges and the organizing committee of the competition. The organizers and the trial secretary are responsible for the arrangements of the competition. The chief judge acts in cooperation with the organizers and the trial secretary.

The chief judge, after consulting the other judges, approves the practical arrangements for the competition. The chief judge decides whether it is necessary to repeat or terminate an exercise e.g., due to technical problems, excessive disturbance.

The chief judge gives the press permission to take pictures or films and decides where the press can stand without causing disturbance to the dogs. The press is not allowed in the ring.

3. SECRETARIES AND HELPERS

Secretaries at the Championship must understand and speak English and must have a broad experience in Rally Obedience Competitions. All information, commands and instructions must be given in English.

A sufficient number of other helpers should be available:

- Ring helpers, who help to build up the courses
- Secretaries, who collect and calculate the results and display them
- Timekeepers, to measure time and back up electronic timekeeping
- Vets, who care about the healthiness of the dogs
- Helpers, who collect the teams for the course orientation
- Helpers, who are preparing the teams for the start (identification control, etc.) and being aware, which team starts next, etc.
- Speakers, etc.

Secretaries and helpers should dress appropriately to the prestige of the competition and their function.

4. GENERAL LAYOUT OF THE NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIP (NOM)

At the Nordic Championship in Rally Obedience the Regulations & Rules for International FCI Rally Obedience Trials must be followed.

The Nordic Championship consists of a team championship and an individual championship. The length of the competition is two (2) days. On the first day, there are two rounds for all participants. These rounds define the team results and are the first two results for the individual championship. Individual results and the judging forms from each of the first two rounds should be published Saturday after the team prize ceremony. On the second day, there is one round for all the participants which is the individual final.

Results

The points for each competitor in each round of the Nordic Championship is found by excluding the highest and lowest points given by the four judges, and the result is the average of the two remaining.

Example: The four judges award points 95, 92, 94 and 90. The highest and the lowest of these points are excluded, and the result for the competitor is the average of the two remaining, in this case 92 and 94 points, giving the competitor 93 points in this round.

Team competition (qualification)

The team competition is held on Saturday. The first two rounds of the competition define the team results. Nordic Team Champion is the team that has the highest score after two rounds. The top three (3) scores for each team from each round count for the total. The total score is the final score for the team.

Nordic Individual Champion

Nordic Individual Champion is the team (handler and dog) that has the best combined result of three rounds. Example. The individual competitor has received the following scores from three rounds: 99, 86 and 95. Thus, the final score for the individual is 280.

The Nordic Individual Champion is entitled to the title of Nordic Champion of Rally Obedience, NORDRLW, for example, NORDRLW-24.

5. NUMBER OF COMPETITORS, ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE AND TO REPRESENT A COUNTRY

Each country can enter one team. A team consists of five (5) competitors and the named reserve. The reserve can replace a team member until they travel to the competition. Should a country enter less than five (5) competitors, the team will be able to compete but will receive zero points for the empty spaces in the team competition. The Nordic Rally Obedience Championship Competition is organized by the Nordic country's kennel club or by an equivalent party in a rotating order as decided by the NKU Board.

6. ENTRY FEE

The country organizing the competition defines the possible entry fee. The entry fee cannot exceed 150 euros per participating team. Entry fees should be payable online.

7. INFORMATION ON SPECIAL REGULATIONS OF THE HOST COUNTRY

The host NCO (country) must publish on its website or the website of the event all necessary information concerning their national rules, special national requirements, details of their legislation that apply to animals entering their country and trials.