

# Minutes of Meeting

## NKU Rally Obedience Committee Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January by email

<b>Participants:</b>	Beatrice Palm (Sweden), Iiris Harju (Finland), Solveig Therese Zetterstrøm (Norway) and Paul Lysholdt (Denmark)
<b>Absentees:</b>	None
<b>Minutes:</b>	Paul Lysholdt

### Approval of Regulations for the Nordic Rally Obedience Championship

Attached the document "Regulations for the Nordic Rally Obedience Championship" has been approved by all participants. It was agreed that Paul Lysholdt will forward the regulations to Jens Glavind to get a formal approval from the NKU Board.

### Background information for the NKU Board

Since the Rally Obedience Commission had its founding meeting only in July 2018 and the first Nordic Championship competition is to be held already in October 2019, we ask for a one-year trial period regarding the regulations and the NKU Board's permission to update these regulations after the 2019 competition, if needed.

The year 2019 Nordic Championship competition is a pilot, and we have also decided not to add any competition details into regulations, but only into the guidelines. This gives us more flexibility to design the Nordic Championship competition which is a combination of four Nordic countries' rally obedience practices. Thus, all competition instructions will be in the guidelines which will be ready in May 2019.

After the first Nordic Championship competition we are prepared to update the regulations, if permitted by the NKU Board, since then we have first-hand knowledge of the actual competition.

### ***NKU Rally Obedience Commission's proposition to the Board of NKU***

*The NKU Rally Obedience Commission proposes that the Regulations for the Nordic Rally Obedience Championship are given a one-year trial period with the possibility to update the regulations by the end of year 2019, after the Nordic Championship competition in October, and bring them to the first meeting of the NKU Board in 2020 for approval.*

## Regulations for the Nordic Rally Obedience Championship

The regulations have been compiled by the Nordic Kennel Union (NKU) Committee for Rally Obedience with representatives from DKK, FKK, NKK and SKK.

The regulations have been approved by NKU/AU in [city], [country] on [date].

For Nordic Championships to be a championship competition, at least three (3) Nordic countries must participate.

### Invitation

The invitation including date, place, entry fee and other necessary information regarding the competition should be sent to the respective kennel clubs no later than six (6) months before the date of the competition.

The invitation must clearly indicate the national regulations or restrictions of the host country regarding participation or entering the country. The detailed information should be unambiguous and available.

The invitation shall include the last date for entry, but the organizer must accept changes on already entered teams up till three (3) weeks prior the competition.

The practical details of the competition must be sent to the respective kennel clubs three (3) months before the competition.

If the host country has a rule that is not covered in the Nordic Championship regulations but will apply to the Nordic Championship held in that country, it must be mentioned in the invitation.

### Judges and judging

The Nordic Championships is judged by four (4) judges, the chief judge being from the host country. The judges are appointed by the NKU Committee for rally obedience.

Judges for Nordic Championships should have sufficient training and must have a broad experience in judging Rally Obedience and be licensed by the kennel club of their own country.

Judges must understand and speak English. All commands and instructions at Nordic Championships must be given in English.

Judges are not permitted to judge family members as handlers or dogs owned by themselves, family members or relatives such as children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, sisters or in-laws. Neither are they allowed to judge members or residents of their household. If a dog, which has been bred by a judge or has been living in the judge's household within one year prior to the competition, has been registered in the competition, the judge cannot act as a judge in this specific competition.

It is recommended that the competitor has the priority and another judge should be invited if ineligibility to judge has arisen. It is usually a unique opportunity to compete for a Nordic Championship and this should thus be promoted.

In case of a possible complaint against judging during Nordic Championships, any decision made by the judges is final and undisputable.

### Eligibility to compete and represent a country

#### **Dog**

Eligibility to participate in the competition is defined by the regulations of the dog's home country and those of the country where the competition takes place.

The dog must be at least 18 months old on the first day of the championship.

Only dogs registered with the studbooks/appendix recognized by the FCI can take part.

The dog must have been registered with the studbook or appendix of the country for which it will compete for a minimum of 12 months.

#### **Handler/Owner**

The handler must be a member of a national organisation of the country he/she represents that is recognized by the FCI.

The handler must have the nationality of the country or must have his/her legal residence for a minimum of 12 months in the country for which the dog will compete.

The owner must have the nationality of the country or must have his/her legal residence for a minimum of 12 months in the country for which his/her dog will compete.

#### **Handler's obligations**

Handlers must follow the regulations and directions as instructed.

The judge may disqualify a handler from the competition if he or she does not abide by the regulations or behaves in an unseemly way. It is forbidden to punish the dog. The judge's decision is final, and no competitor shall impugn the decisions of the judge.

Barbed or electric collars and other constraining devices or means, such as muzzles are forbidden. This restriction begins from the veterinary check prior to the competition and is valid until the end of the competition.

#### **The competition**

The Nordic Championship competition includes a team competition and an individual competition.

The detailed instructions regarding the competition are found in the competition guidelines.

#### **General regulations**

All competitors must follow the regulations of the hosting country regarding, for example, cropped and docked dogs, anti-doping, vaccinations, aggressiveness, bitches in season or in breeding.

#### **Health**

Dogs that are ill or injured (includes blind, taped, stitched or bandaged) are not allowed to participate, as well as dogs that are aggressive.

#### **Aggressiveness / disqualification**

Aggressive dogs are not allowed to enter the competition premises. The judge will disqualify any dog that attacks or attempts to attack a person or another dog. The incident must be reported to the kennel club represented by the dog and the kennel club of the host country. If the duration of the event is more than a day, the disqualification is valid also for the other days and thus the dog cannot compete.

#### **Bitches in season and in breeding**

Bitches in season may participate.

Bitches expected to give birth within 30 days and bitches that have given birth less than 75 days before the competition date must be excluded.

#### **Neutered male dogs/bitches**

Neutered dogs are allowed to compete, with the exception of chemically neutered male dogs.