

CHAPTER 0 - IDENTITY, ORGANISATION AND FRAMEWORK OF THE DCF

0.1 - Origin and identity of the DCF

When it was created, the discipline was called Dog Cross Fit.

Because the name CrossFit® is a protected trademark, the name of the discipline had to evolve.

Former visual identities of the Dog Cross Fit discipline.

In order to keep the initials DCF, which were already in use and recognised, the name Dog Cross Federation was then adopted.

Evolution of the visual identity following the change of name.

Thus: Dog Cross Fit → Dog Cross Federation → DCF

The word "Federation" therefore forms part of the name chosen during this evolution. It does not mean that the DCF has the status of an official sports federation.

Dog Cross Federation is legally an association. It is neither an approved sports federation nor a delegated sports federation.

In these regulations, the names Dog Cross Federation, DCF or DCF association refer to this same association.

0.2 - Purpose and operation of the DCF

The purpose of the DCF association is to develop, organise and supervise the practice of DCF within a common framework.

In particular, it defines:

- the sporting regulations;
- the technical standards for the obstacles;
- the classes and competition procedures;
- the conditions for organising DCF events;
- the common rules applicable to the HDB's Arena network.

It also ensures the development of the regulations and supports the development of the discipline in France and abroad.

0.3 - Organisation of the association

The Executive Board is responsible for the day-to-day management of the association.

The DCF Committee, made up of representatives of the HDB's Arena, takes part in decisions concerning the operation and development of the DCF.

Decisions taken on behalf of the association are validated by the DCF Committee.

During events, judges apply the sporting rules and make the immediate decisions required for the proper running of attempts and for safety.

Any decision or sanction of a lasting nature falls within the remit of the DCF Committee.

0.4 - The HDB's Arena network

Structures recognised by the DCF are grouped under the name HDB's Arena.

Each structure is identified in the following form:

HDB's Arena + name or territory

HDB's Arena undertake to comply with the DCF framework, its regulations, its technical standards and the safety rules applicable to the discipline.

0.5 - Support for HDB's Arena

The DCF supports arena managers in the creation, development and operation of their structure.

This support may in particular concern:

- the project and choice of site;
- the installation and compliance of obstacles;
- the application of DCF standards;
- the organisation of training sessions and events;
- procedures relating to DCF events;
- communication;
- integration and operation within the network.

Guides, support materials and procedures may be made available to arenas.

This support does not replace the obligations specific to each structure.

0.6 - Independence of HDB's Arena

Each HDB's Arena remains legally, administratively and financially independent.

In particular, it remains responsible for:

- its legal status;
- the management of its structure and site;
- its classes and educational organisation;
- its services, cards, subscriptions, products and services;
- its employees, service providers or volunteers;
- its administrative, tax, social and regulatory obligations;
- its insurance.

Prices for the activities of each arena remain freely determined, except for the prices of DCF events when these are set by the association.

0.7 - Obligations according to the country of establishment

The administrative and regulatory obligations applicable to HDB's Arena may vary depending on the country in which they are established.

In France, certain procedures may in particular fall within the remit of the DDPP or any other competent authority.

HDB's Arena located abroad must comply with the obligations and regulations applicable in their own country, as well as with the requirements of the competent local authorities.

Each arena remains responsible for ensuring that its structure complies with the legislation applicable to it.

0.8 - Licence and insurance

The DCF licence operates as membership of the association. It allows the licence holder to practise DCF and to attend the different HDB's Arena in the network, in compliance with the rules in force and the operating arrangements specific to each structure.

Each HDB's Arena must have insurance appropriate to the activities it offers.

The DCF licence must not automatically be regarded as individual insurance covering injuries to the participant or the dog, unless such cover is expressly provided for by an insurance contract.

0.9 - Common framework for HDB's Arena

Each HDB's Arena undertakes to provide DCF practice in a suitable and maintained environment, with obstacles that comply with DCF standards.

Arena managers ensure that their facilities are checked regularly and that the rules intended to protect the safety of dogs, participants and the public are observed.

Compliance with this common framework makes it possible to maintain consistent practice throughout the HDB's Arena network.

0.10 - DCF reference framework

The licences, regulations, competitions, rankings, grades and systems specific to the DCF fall within the operation of the Dog Cross Federation association.

Rules, rights or guarantees existing in another discipline, association or canine organisation do not automatically apply to the DCF.

The association's statutes, these regulations and the decisions of the DCF Committee constitute the DCF reference framework.

CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.1 - Welfare-minded conduct and safety in HDB's Arena

HDB's Arena must welcome every participant professionally, with consideration, and in suitable and safe facilities.

All participants must behave appropriately for the practice of DCF, based on:

- respect;
- fair play;
- good faith;
- the safety of dogs, people and facilities.

The use of coercive methods, tools or behaviour is strictly prohibited within HDB's Arena.

In particular, the following are prohibited:

- lures made from real fur;
- dead or live animals used as lures;
- any act or practice that deliberately puts the dog in danger.

In the event of serious facts concerning the safety or welfare of a dog, the situation may be referred to the DCF Committee, which will decide on any further action.

This advantageously replaces the current sentence stating directly that "the Federation may impose an exclusion", including for facts occurring outside the arenas.

1.2 - Zero tolerance and prohibited behaviour

A zero-tolerance policy applies in particular in cases of:

- physical violence towards a dog;
- insults or inappropriate remarks towards a judge, volunteer, arena manager or participant;
- behaviour deliberately putting a dog or person in danger;
- intoxication or use of illegal substances incompatible with participation in the event.

During a competition, the judge may take the immediate sporting measures provided for in the regulations:

- stop an attempt;
- award a cross when provided for by the regulations;
- exclude the dog-handler team from the obstacle;
- request its withdrawal from the competition when a safety situation requires it.

Any sanction extending beyond the event or of a temporary or permanent nature falls within the remit of the DCF Committee.

No refund may be demanded when exclusion from the event is imposed for disciplinary or safety reasons.

Here, the main purpose is to correct the current ambiguity between the judge's authority and a lasting exclusion.

1.3 - Responsibility of the dog's handler

The handler, whether owner or handler, remains responsible for managing the dog throughout its presence in an HDB's Arena or at a DCF event.

The dog must:

- be identified;
- be in a state of health compatible with the activity;
- be physically fit for the effort required.

During an attempt:

- no lead, long line or other attachment may remain attached to the dog;
- the handler must adapt the activity to the dog's physical condition, fatigue and external conditions.

1.4 - Role, obligations and independence of HDB's Arena

HDB's Arena must guarantee:

- safe and well-maintained facilities;
- equipment compliant with DCF standards: dimensions, colours and safety;
- a complete check of the equipment before each CUP or official event;
- an appropriate relaxation area, including:
 - an area consistent with the number of dogs present;
 - fencing at least 1.20 m high with a suitable and secure gate;
 - a bucket and shovel for collecting faeces, bags being prohibited in the area;
 - a location out of sight of the obstacles in order to encourage calm behaviour in the dogs;
 - compulsory supervision by the person responsible for the dog throughout the time spent in the area;
 - limited access time in order to allow rotation and access for all participants.

A podium is compulsory for prize-giving ceremonies:

- the steps must be spaced at least 1 m apart between each position;
- this distance may be adapted when photographs are taken with only one dog per step.

For each obstacle in use, a faeces shovel must be available in the immediate vicinity.

If a dog defecates, no attempt may take place until the owner has cleaned it up.

The facilities are initially validated by the technical inspector. Thereafter, each HDB's Arena undertakes to maintain the facilities and equipment in accordance with the DCF standards in force.

Administrative and regulatory obligations

Each HDB's Arena remains responsible for the administrative and regulatory procedures applicable to its structure and to the events it organises.

In France, certain procedures may in particular fall within the remit of the DDPP or any other competent authority.

For HDB's Arena located outside France, the obligations may differ and must be carried out in accordance with the regulations and competent authorities of the country concerned.

Independence of HDB's Arena

HDB's Arena remain independent in all matters relating to:

- their classes and teaching methods;
- their training cards or packages;
- their additional products and services;
- their own equipment;
- their internal organisation.

Payment for services offered by HDB's Arena - classes, cards, products, equipment or other services - is entirely their own responsibility.

The DCF association does not intervene in their internal management.

1.5 - Activities concerned

These regulations apply to DCF activities organised in HDB's Arena or under the framework of the DCF association, including:

- training sessions;
- Puppy Time;
- DCF School;
- CUPs;
- the Open;
- the Final;
- DCF demonstrations and events.

Participation in a DCF activity implies compliance with the applicable regulations.

1.6 - Conditions of participation

1.6.1 - DCF licence

To practise DCF in an HDB's Arena, whether in training or competition, the dog must hold a valid DCF licence.

The DCF licence operates as membership of the association. It allows participation in DCF and access to the different HDB's Arena in the network, subject to compliance with the regulations and the operating arrangements specific to each structure.

The licence fee is set at €25.

The licence is valid for the current season and remains valid until the end of the month in which the Final takes place.

It must not be regarded as individual insurance automatically covering the participant or the dog.

1.6.2 - Discovery session and Puppy Time

To discover DCF, each dog-handler team may attend a first introductory session without a licence.

Puppy Time, a non-competitive introductory activity intended for young dogs, is not subject to the licence requirement. Chapter 5 already expressly provides for this.

Beyond these discovery cases, a DCF licence is required in order to practise regularly in an HDB's Arena.

1.6.3 - Dogs subject to specific regulations

For dogs subject to specific regulations, the handler must be able to present the documents required for their participation.

For dogs that may be treated as Category 1 dogs, the breed assessment document must be available at DCF events when required. If the requested document is not available, participation may be refused.

For dogs with cropped ears, a valid otoplasty certificate must be presented. Otherwise, the dog may be refused entry to the event.

For HDB's Arena located outside France, the applicable obligations are those provided for by the regulations of the country concerned.

1.6.4 - DCF event fees

The fees for official DCF events are set by the association and are identical for all HDB's Arena:

- DCF School: €20
- Puppy Time: €10
- DCF CUP: €35
- Open: €40
- Final: €40

1.6.5 - Participation-related sanctions

In the event of:

- mistreatment,
- abandonment,
- violence or dangerous behaviour,
- endangering the dog,
- inappropriate remarks towards judges, officials, volunteers or participants,

the Federation and/or the judge may decide:

- immediate exclusion from the discipline or event,
- and, depending on the seriousness, temporary or permanent exclusion from the Federation,

without reimbursement of the fees paid.

1.7 - Photographs, videos and communication

Professional photographers wishing to work at a DCF event must obtain prior authorisation from the organising arena or the DCF association, depending on the event concerned.

Photographs or videos may be taken during DCF activities and events for communication, promotional or illustrative purposes:

- by the organising HDB's Arena;
- by the Dog Cross Federation association.

The use of an image that makes it possible to identify a person must comply with the authorisations obtained and the rules applicable to image rights.

Anyone who does not wish to appear in communication materials is invited to inform the organisation.

1.8 - Development of the regulations

The DCF regulations may evolve in order to take account of safety, changes in the discipline, the organisation of events and regulatory obligations.

Changes are validated by the DCF Committee. Where immediately necessary, particularly for safety reasons, a provisional measure may be applied and then submitted to the DCF Committee.

Major changes may also be presented at the General Meeting.

Any new version is communicated to HDB's Arena and published on the official DCF channels.

Version currently in force: December 2025.

And when the new version has been validated, we will simply replace this last line with the validation date of the new version.

CHAPTER 2 - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE OBSTACLES

2.0 - General safety principles

DCF obstacles are designed, installed and maintained in a way that limits risks and promotes the dog's safety when clearing the obstacle, landing and moving along the track.

The surfaces used must be:

- stable,
- non-slip,
- free of dangerous irregularities,
- suitable for the physical effort required of the dog.

Landing pits and cushioning zones:

- are filled with sand or an equivalent material,
- contain no hard or sharp elements,
- comply with the maximum dimensions defined for each obstacle (see 2.6).

This chapter describes the technical characteristics of the obstacles: structures, pits, dimensions, surfaces and safety elements.

The rules for attempts and validation are detailed in Chapter 3 - RULES FOR ATTEMPTS AND VALIDATION OF OBSTACLES.

2.1 - Long Jump

2.1.1 - Obstacle structure

- Jump bars
 - Bars fixed in their bases.
 - Colours: blue / yellow (standardised across all arenas).
- Take-off bar
 - Specific bar marking the take-off zone, also blue / yellow.
- Uprights
 - Minimum base: 30 × 30 cm to ensure stability.

2.1.2 - Run-up track

- Minimum width: 1 m.
- Recommended length: approximately 15 m of usable track.
- Surface: artificial turf or equivalent sports surface, stable and non-slip.
- A magnetic measuring strip is installed on the ground, parallel to the track and outside its usable width, in accordance with the specifications in §2.7 "Measuring system: magnetic strips".

2.1.3 - Landing pit

A landing pit is installed behind the bars:

- filled with sand or cushioning material,
- clear of any obstacle.

Maximum dimensions of the Long Jump pit:

- length: 10 m
- width: 2.50 m
- depth: maximum 40 cm.

2.2 - High Jump

2.2.1 - Run-up track

- Run-up track:
 - length: approximately 8 m,
 - minimum width: 1 m,

- surface: artificial turf or equivalent, flat and non-slip.
- A magnetic measuring strip is installed on the ground, parallel to the track and outside its usable width, in accordance with the specifications in §2.7 “Measuring system: magnetic strips”.

2.2.2 - Lure system

- Lure / toy attached to the end of a rope.
- Rope running through a pulley system allowing:
 - the lure to be raised to the set height,
 - a smooth and controlled descent after it is caught.
- The system must allow the rope to be braked in order to cushion the dog’s descent.

2.2.3 - Landing pit

Under the dog’s landing zone:

- a landing pit is provided,
- filled with sand or an equivalent cushioning material.

Maximum dimensions of the High Jump pit:

- length: 6 m
- width: 3 m
- depth: maximum 20 cm.

2.2.4 - Safety signalling

- Double-sided disc:
 - Blue: normal operation.
 - Red: activation of a safety braking action (management of the lure / rope descent).

2.3 - Wall Climb

2.3.1 - Wall and covering

- Wall
 - stable and rigid structure,
 - covered with a non-slip and slightly cushioning surface,
 - allowing the dog to gain purchase without slipping.

2.3.2 - Lure & rope

- Lure / toy suspended from the end of a rope at the set height.
- Attachment system allowing the lure to descend in a controlled manner to accompany the dog’s movement.

2.3.3 - Track & structural reinforcements

- Run-up track:
 - length: approximately 10 m,
 - minimum width: 3 m,
 - surface: artificial turf or a flat, non-slip slab.
- A magnetic measuring strip is installed on the ground, parallel to the track and outside its usable width, in accordance with the specifications in §2.7 “Measuring system: magnetic strips”.
- Safety brace:
 - compulsory from a height of 3 m to reinforce the stability of the structure.

2.3.4 - Safety signalling

- Double-sided disc:
 - Blue: normal operation.
 - Red: activation of a safety braking action (management of the lure / rope descent).

2.4 - Hedge Jump

2.4.1 - Hedge and uprights

- Hedge:
 - hedge with double blue / yellow bar.
- Uprights:
 - minimum base: 30 × 30 cm to ensure stability.

2.4.2 - Run-up track

- Recommended length: 10 m of usable track.
- Minimum width: 1 m.
- Surface: artificial turf or equivalent sports surface, flat, stable and non-slip.
- A magnetic measuring strip is installed on the ground, parallel to the track and outside its usable width, in accordance with the specifications in §2.7 “Measuring system: magnetic strips”.

2.4.3 - Adjustment and obstacle surface

- Height:
 - adjustable according to the dog’s category and the formats defined by the Federation.
- Surface around the obstacle:
 - clear, flat, without holes or irregularities,
 - non-slip.

2.4.4 - Landing pit

- Located behind the hedge.
- Filled with sand or cushioning material.
- Maximum dimensions:
 - length: 6 m,
 - width: 1.20 m,
 - depth: maximum 40 cm.

2.5 - 50 m Sprint

2.5.1 - Track

The 50 m Sprint is a straight-line running event.

- Straight track:
 - length: 50 m (sprint distance),
 - width: approximately 1.20 m to 1.50 m,
 - surface: resin, stabilised earth or another stable sports surface.
- Flat start zone:
 - at least 2 m of flat track before the start photocell,
 - width: approximately 1.50 m.

2.5.2 - Timing and zones

- Timing
 - one start photocell and one finish photocell,
 - crossing space of approximately 1 m between the photocells.
- Braking zone
 - minimum 10 m after the finish photocell.
- Area dedicated to the handler
 - at the end of the run, an area of approximately 50 cm reserved for the handler,
 - marked by a ground marker (approximately 10 cm high) clearly defining the human area.

2.5.3 - Pit & protective tarpaulin (if present)

On some installations, a pit + tarpaulin structure may be installed at the end of the track:

- Pit:
 - length: generally 8 to 10 m,
 - depth: approximately 10 cm,
 - position: approximately 5 m after the finish photocell,
 - filled with cushioning material (generally sand).
- Protective tarpaulin:
 - installed above the pit,
 - acts as a visual and physical safety barrier.

The sporting consequences of contact with the tarpaulin (warning, cross, etc.) are covered by Chapter 3.

2.6 - Maximum dimensions of landing pits

To harmonise DCF facilities, the maximum dimensions of landing pits are as follows:

- High Jump
 - length: 6 m
 - width: 3 m
 - depth: maximum 20 cm
- Hedge Jump
 - length: 6 m
 - width: 1.20 m
 - depth: maximum 40 cm
- Long Jump
 - length: 10 m
 - width: 2.50 m
 - depth: maximum 40 cm

Every pit must:

- be completely filled with cushioning material,
- be levelled before each event,
- remain compliant with these dimensions or with any update validated by the Federation.

2.7 - Measuring system: magnetic strips

To make it easier for the dog's handler to position distances and heights and to avoid "step-by-step" measuring at each attempt, Dog Cross Federation is progressively introducing a system of magnetic strips on the relevant obstacles (Long Jump, High Jump, Wall Climb, Hedge Jump).

This system allows:

- quick identification of distances and heights,
- more precise and repeatable positioning,
- less handling of cones or movable markers.

2.7.1 - General principle

- The magnetic strips are placed on the ground next to the track, not on the obstacle structure.
- They are parallel to the track or to the jumping axis.
- Magnetic markers are attached to the strip to indicate:
 - the distance / height requested by the handler,
 - and, if necessary, the validated distance / height.

The dog's handler uses these strips directly to position their markers, without having to count steps at every change.

2.7.2 - Technical requirements

The strips and their markers must meet the following criteria:

- be placed on the ground at the same level as the track (flush with the surface),
- be installed outside the usable width of the track or jumping zone in order to:
 - not reduce the regulatory width,

- not hinder the handler's movement,
- not hinder the catching of the dog;
- have no irregularity or protruding edge that could trip the handler or injure the dog;
- be stable (sufficient weight or fastening so that they do not move during the event);
- be readable from the handling and judging area;
- magnetic markers must:
 - have sufficient adhesion so that they do not fall,
 - be visible and contrasting (bright colour, clear marking).

Magnetic markers may be personalised (arena name, logo, etc.) provided that these readability and safety criteria are respected.

2.7.3 - Installation in arenas

- Some arenas are already equipped with this system and use it throughout the season.
- The other arenas must equip themselves for the next sporting season, in order to progressively align all structures with this measuring method.
- Every newly approved arena must provide for the installation of magnetic strips on the relevant obstacles.

2.8 - General safety of structures

For all obstacles and all facilities used as part of DCF activities, the following principles apply:

2.8.1 - Initial validation

- Each structure (obstacles, pits, tracks, landing zones, etc.) must initially be validated by the DCF technical inspector.
- This validation covers in particular:
 - compliance of dimensions (heights, lengths, widths),
 - quality of materials (surfaces, fastening, cushioning),
 - stability of the structure,
 - compliance with safety zones around the obstacle.

2.8.2 - Regular inspection

Before each CUP, Open, Final or official event:

- The arena must carry out a complete inspection of its structures, including at least:
 - checking the stability of the obstacles and associated elements (bars, supports, posts, fastenings),
 - checking the condition of surfaces (wear, holes, slippery areas, sharp elements),
 - checking the depth and filling of pits (levelled sand, free of foreign objects),
 - checking that landing and circulation areas are clear,
 - checking track compliance (width, continuity, absence of obstacles).
- Any anomaly identified must be corrected before attempts begin.
- If a structure cannot be brought into compliance, the obstacle must be withdrawn from the event or replaced.

2.8.3 - Ongoing compliance with DCF standards

- Facilities must remain permanently compliant with Dog Cross Federation standards, particularly with regard to:
 - safety (for the dog, handler, officials and public),
 - regulatory dimensions of obstacles, pits, tracks and working areas,
 - suitable materials (cushioning surfaces, non-slip surfaces, absence of dangerous elements),
 - clear signalling (lines, zones, markers, strips, safety discs).
- Any major modification (reconstruction of an obstacle, change of materials, significant relocation) must undergo new validation by the Federation or its technical inspector.
- Arenas undertake to maintain their facilities at a constant level of quality and safety throughout the season.

CHAPTER 3 - RULES FOR ATTEMPTS AND VALIDATION OF OBSTACLES

3.0 - General rules for attempting an obstacle

These rules apply to all DCF obstacles:

- in CUP,
- in Open,
- in Final.

3.0.1 - Before, during and after the attempt

Before the attempt

- The handler prepares the dog and announces the distance or height if necessary.
- The dog-handler team takes its place in the designated area.
- The team waits for the judge's authorisation.
- The judge gives the "ON" signal when the dog is correctly positioned and the requested measurement is in place.

During the attempt

- The handler accompanies the dog without hindering its run-up, cutting across its trajectory or positioning themselves as a "human wall" to prevent a possible run-out.
- The toy / lure must comply with the regulations and be used according to the rules specific to the obstacle.
- The judge observes the attempt and applies the validation criteria for the obstacle.

After the attempt

- The judge clearly announces: "Validated" or "Not validated".
- The team leaves the area without hindering the next attempt.
- The judge (or secretary) records the performance.

3.0.2 - Counting attempts and the role of the "ON"

- On each obstacle (except Sprint), the handler has 3 attempts to validate the announced measurement.
- An attempt is counted from the moment when:
 - the judge says "ON", and
 - the dog crosses the obstacle line, in either direction.
- The "ON" remains active as long as the measurement has not moved (for example: a fallen bar).

Special cases relating to the obstacle line

- If the dog goes around the obstacle and crosses the obstacle line 3 times, it does not obtain validation and has used its 3 attempts for the announced measurement.
- If the dog validates the jump but then comes back by jumping the obstacle in the reverse direction, → 1 attempt will be deducted from the next measurement.
- If the dog misses its first attempt and sets off in the other direction, crossing the obstacle line again, → 2 attempts will be counted, even if it successfully completes the "return" jump.

Long Jump examples (to be retained)

- Example 1: First jump attempt, failed. On the way back, the dog (or human) touches a bar. → Only one attempt remains for this measurement.
- Example 2: Jump attempt, successful. On the way back, the dog (or human) touches a bar. → The dog now has only 2 attempts to validate the new measurement.

3.0.3 - Behaviour rules within the obstacle area

A common section specifies the rules for all people present in the obstacle area.

- Maximum 3 people in the obstacle area to manage the dog.

- It is prohibited to:
 - position oneself so as to physically obstruct the dog's passage,
 - prevent the dog from running out by standing at the sides,
 - make a dog jump with a lead or long line attached to its collar or harness.

Human / dog contact

- Once the dog has been released after the ON:
 - no further physical contact is permitted,
 - it is prohibited to order the dog (verbally or by gesture) to go backwards,
 - the handler may no longer go back to the dog.
- The dog and handler must always work moving forwards.
- The dog may be stopped by voice, but it must not move backwards.

If the dog remains stationary:

- the handler positioned behind may touch the dog again to get it moving, but without repositioning it.

Before release, it is possible to motivate the dog (movements with continuous contact).

3.0.4 - Warnings and crosses

Warning

A warning may be given when the situation is borderline without immediately justifying a cross.

Two warnings on the same obstacle automatically result in a cross.

Awarding a cross

A cross is awarded in particular:

- in the event of clearly endangering the dog;
- in the event of a fall onto the back;
- in the event of a dangerous landing or violent impact;
- in the special cases provided for by the rules specific to each obstacle;
- after 2 warnings on the same obstacle.

Failure in 3 attempts at a measurement does not, by itself, result in a cross.

If no measurement has previously been validated, the team simply obtains no result on the obstacle.

If a measurement has already been validated, failure in 3 attempts at a higher measurement does not result in a cross: the last validated measurement remains the performance retained.

A cross results in no result on the obstacle concerned and in the consequences provided for by the points regulations.

The cross is awarded by the judge in charge of the obstacle and applies immediately to the attempt concerned.

3.0.5 - Falling onto the back (all obstacles)

This rule applies to all obstacles.

From the moment you are in the obstacle area with your dog (warm-up, attempt, reward):

- if, during a landing or uncontrolled movement, the dog falls onto its back (loss of balance, tipping over, impact of the back on the ground), **a CROSS is automatically awarded.**

This applies to all obstacles, particularly during landings from Wall Climb, High Jump, Hedge Jump, Long Jump or at the end of the Sprint, whenever it is a fall.

Exception:

If the dog deliberately lies on its back (for example for a cuddle, play or to roll in the sand), without falling or losing balance,

→ this is not a cross: the dog is not falling, it is placing itself in that position voluntarily.

3.0.6 - Special case: the JOKER

At each CUP, Open and Final, each dog-handler team has one single Joker for the whole event.

- The Joker may be used at any time during attempts, on a jumping obstacle: Long Jump, High Jump, Wall Climb, Hedge Jump.
- The Joker allows the measurement (distance or height) announced immediately beforehand to be changed in favour of a new measurement which must be:
 - greater than or equal to the starting measurement.
- To use the Joker, at least one attempt must remain on the current measurement:
 - as long as the 3 attempts have not been used, the team may decide to play its Joker;
 - as soon as the Joker is announced, the new measurement becomes the Joker measurement.
- The Joker gives only one attempt at this Joker measurement:
 - any other possible attempts at this measurement are removed;
 - the team therefore stakes everything on this single attempt.

Consequences:

- Joker validated:
 - the Joker measurement becomes the official best performance on the obstacle for that competition.
- Joker not validated:
 - a cross is awarded for the obstacle concerned, as part of the performance index;
 - the obstacle is considered unsuccessful for that competition, even if lower measurements had previously been validated.

The Joker is a sporting gamble, a real challenge to be used only when the handler feels genuinely confident in themselves and their dog.

3.1 - Long Jump

3.1.1 - Basic rules (Long Jump)

- The team has 3 attempts to validate a distance.
- An attempt is described as “mordu” only in the following case:
 - at least one bar falls (on the outward or return path), whether caused by the dog or the human.
- An attempt may be not validated without being “mordu” if, for example:
 - the dog does not clear the announced distance,
 - the dog does not land correctly in the designated area (landing too short, clear refusal, etc.),
 - the handler triggers the obstacle line in the wrong direction (see general rules 3.0.2).
- In all cases, whether “mordu” or simply not validated, → the attempt is used (counts as 1 of the 3 attempts).

3.1.2 - Timer

- Timer = 1 min
- No timer before the first jump
- Starts as soon as the dog lands (successful or failed)
- If successful: 1 min to reset → ON → 1 min to jump
- If failed: 1 min to reset and repeat the attempt

3.1.3 - Distance progression

Distance progression is as follows:

- Before the class minimum:
 - progression in +50 cm increments.
- After reaching the class minimum:
 - progression in +20 cm increments.
- For a record attempt:
 - progression in +10 cm increments.

For the -40 class:

- minimum distance: 20 cm,
- progression only in +20 cm increments.

In Open and Final:

- class minimums are increased by +1 m,
- except for the -40 class, which keeps its specific minimums.

3.1.4 - Cross at Long Jump

- 3 failed attempts at the first announced measurement, with no measurement previously validated = cross. If a measurement has already been validated, 3 failed attempts at a higher measurement do not result in a cross: the last validated measurement remains retained.
- A cross is awarded in the event of:
 - danger to the dog,
 - or 2 warnings on the Long Jump.

3.2 - High Jump

3.2.1 - Procedure and validation

- The dog must catch its lure at a height announced by the handler before the jump.
- The lure is suspended from a rope running over 2 pulleys, making it easier to lower once the lure has been caught.
- The jump is validated provided that:
 - the dog clearly catches the toy in its mouth at the announced height,
 - it begins its descent with the toy in its mouth (even only very slightly at low heights),
 - then it is caught without a dangerous fall.

The jump is not validated if:

- the dog touches the toy without taking it in its mouth or releases it immediately,
- the handler touches the dog before it has touched the toy.

3.2.2 - Attempts and safety

- The team has 3 attempts per height.
- The toy is always attached to the end of a rope.
- Blue / red discs are used:
 - blue: no rope restraint,
 - red: rope held for safety braking by the judge or team.
- The dog must land correctly; no dangerous fall may occur.

3.2.3 - Cross at High Jump

- Any dangerous landing (fall, violent impact, dog on its back) may result in an immediate cross.
- 2 warnings on the High Jump = cross.

3.3 - Wall Climb

3.3.1 - Procedure and validation

- The dog must climb a vertical wall covered with a cushioning, grippy surface.
- It must catch a lure at a height announced by the handler.
- A double lure may be used, but only one must be designated as the “catchable lure” for validation.
- The jump is validated only when:
 - the dog has come down cleanly into the arms of its catcher, lure in its mouth,
 - the lure has been lowered significantly.

The attempt is not validated if:

- the dog merely touches the toy or releases it immediately,

- the handler touches the dog before it has caught its toy.

3.3.2 - Specific tolerances and prohibitions

- It is tolerated for some dogs to turn very close to the wall and fall into their handler's arms out of habit, without impact and without propulsion backwards.
- The following are prohibited:
 - dangerous falls,
 - projecting the dog backwards,
 - an uncontrolled landing in the arms.

Blue / red discs are also used to signal safety braking actions.

3.3.3 - Cross at Wall Climb

At Wall Climb, a cross is awarded in particular in the following cases:

- if the dog is not caught before touching the ground;
- if the dog lands badly in the arms (violent impact, fall onto the back, uncontrolled landing);
- if the handler causes the dog to be propelled backwards (push, pull or gesture sending it into rotation / fall);
- if the dog falls onto its back at any time during the landing in the obstacle area (see general rule 3.0.5).

A tolerance is accepted when:

- the dog turns very close to the wall and falls directly into its handler's arms,
- without impact and without propulsion backwards,
- and the landing is judged safe and controlled by the judge.

As with the other obstacles:

- 2 warnings at Wall Climb also result in a cross.
- Once awarded, a cross is IRREVOCABLE and NOT OPEN TO DISCUSSION; only the judge in charge of the obstacle may award it.

3.4 - Hedge Jump

3.4.1 - Procedure and validation

- The dog must clear the hedge set at a height defined by the handler.
- The obstacle may be cleared only in the direction indicated by the judge.
- The jump is validated if:
 - all bars are still in place when the dog has all 4 paws on the ground,
 - the landing is correct and does not endanger the dog.
- It is permitted to work in front of or behind the hedge when calling the dog.
- The dog does not need to catch the lure for the jump to be validated.

The team has 3 attempts to validate the announced height.

3.4.2 - Cross at Hedge Jump

- Any dangerous fall on the hedge or during the landing results in a cross.
- 2 warnings on the obstacle = cross.

In addition, at Long Jump and Hedge Jump, if the handler accidentally knocks down a bar after the dog has already started its run, → the jump cannot be validated and one attempt is counted.

3.5 - 50 m Sprint

3.5.1 - General procedure

The 50 m Sprint is a 5th obstacle: a free-running event over 50 m, with a maximum of 2 runs, in the order of the DCF class draw.

The time is validated if:

- the start is given correctly,
- the dog crosses the finish photocell within the designated lane.

3.5.2 - Specific attempt rules

- 2 possible attempts,
 - with a maximum of 1 minute to cross the 50 m line.
- Start:
 - dog and handler a maximum of 1 m behind the start line,
 - set-up zone marked and limited.
- 2 leads compulsory before the start:
 - one for the handler holding the dog,
 - one for the person calling the dog.
- If the dog turns back:
 - the current attempt is cancelled,
 - if the dog turns back again on the second attempt, a cross is awarded.
- If the dog stops but does not move backwards, the time continues to run until it crosses the finish photocell.
- If the handler triggers or cuts the photocell, or crosses the handler-zone line before the dog passes: → the attempt is lost.
- If there is a technical problem with a photocell during the attempt, the attempt is not counted and a new attempt is granted.

The better of the two times is retained.

3.5.3 - Safety pit and tarpaulin

- A sand pit and protective tarpaulin are installed at the end of the track, in accordance with the technical specifications set out in Chapter 2.
- Simple contact with the tarpaulin, in particular with the toy, tail or a body part without impact, does not result in a penalty.
- However, if the dog arrives at significant speed and hits the tarpaulin dangerously, falls, crashes or clearly puts itself in danger, the judge may award a cross.
- The assessment therefore concerns whether the dog is put in danger, not the mere fact of having touched the tarpaulin.

CHAPTER 4 - CLASSES

DCF classes are intended to distribute dogs fairly according to their morphology, in order to guarantee fair competition conditions for all dog-handler teams.

4.1 - Procedure for assigning dogs to classes

The allocation of dogs to the different DCF classes is based on a single procedure common to all arenas.

It is based on three main elements:

- height at the withers (measured using the DCF measuring stick),
- morphological type (shepherd type, molossoid type, others),
- and, for molossoid-type dogs, the reference weight (26 kg threshold).

The rules below guarantee fair, stable and clear allocation throughout the season.

4.1.1 - Criteria taken into account

To determine a dog's class, the DCF takes into account:

1. Height at the withers

- Measured using the DCF measuring stick, under the conditions provided for (see §4.1.2).
- This height is used to assign the dog to the corresponding height class: (Open, Shepherd classes -58 / 58-63 / +63, etc., according to the definitions given in §4.2).

2. Morphological type

- Some dogs are identified as shepherd type (list and examples in Appendix 1).
- Others are identified as molossoid type (MO+26, see Appendix 1).
- Crossbred dogs are directed towards the most consistent type according to:
 - their actual morphology,
 - their build,
 - and, where applicable, the available information on their origin.

3. Reference weight (for molossoids)

- For molossoid-type dogs, allocation between the Open Class and the MO+26 Class is based on reference weight:
 - strictly < 26 kg → Open Class,
 - ≥ 26 kg → MO+26 Class.
- Weight monitoring and control procedures are specified in §4.4.2.

These criteria are used together to place the dog in the class that truly corresponds to its build and type, in the interests of safety and sporting fair play.

4.1.2 - Official DCF measuring procedure

The official DCF measuring procedure is used to establish the dog's reference height for its height class.

Measuring at the Open

- When a dog participates in the Open, an initial measurement is taken.
- This measurement becomes the provisional reference measurement for the current season.
- It is not necessary to measure the dog again at every CUP: only measurements carried out at Opens and/or Finals serve as the official reference during the season.

Final validation of the measurement

- If the dog is at least 2 years old at the time of two official measurements (for example Open / Final, Open / Open or Final / Final), the measured height becomes the dog's definitive DCF reference height.
- Until the dog is at least 2 years old, it must be measured at every Open and every Final in order to validate its height for the current year (growth still in progress).

Dogs not participating in the Open

- If a dog does not participate in the Open, it must be measured at every CUP in which it takes part, in order to place it in the appropriate height class for that CUP.
- Measurements taken during a CUP:
 - are used only to assign dogs for the CUP concerned,
 - do not become official measurements: only the Open / Final procedure described above makes it possible to make the dog's DCF height official.

The logistics of measuring (time slots, the day before or morning of the CUP) are specified in Chapter 5 - Running a CUP.

4.1.3 - In case of doubt

If there is serious doubt concerning a dog's class - height, morphological type, weight or affiliation - a verification may be initiated.

1. Reporting the doubt

- The doubt may be reported by:
 - a judge,
 - the manager of an HDB's Arena,
 - or, in a controlled manner, a competitor to the Federation or the organisation.

2. Preliminary checks

- Review of existing measurements (height, weight),
- checking documents (LOF, passport, etc.),
- possibly a new height measurement and/or weighing for control purposes,
- request for photographs or additional information if necessary.

3. Federation's opinion

Based on the information collected, the DCF may confirm or change the dog's class in accordance with the criteria defined in this chapter.

Where the available information does not make it possible to determine the dog's type or affiliation sufficiently clearly, recourse to a DNA test may be considered.

4. DNA test

The licence holder may, on their own initiative, have a DNA test carried out in order to clarify the dog's affiliation or type, particularly where this information may affect its DCF classification.

In the event of persistent doubt or a dispute concerning a dog's classification, the DCF may also request a DNA test as a last resort.

In order to guarantee the same method for everyone, DNA tests taken into account for DCF classification must be carried out by the laboratory selected by the DCF.

- when carried out at the owner's initiative, the test is at the owner's expense;
- when a competitor disputes the classification of another dog and a DNA test is requested as a result of that dispute, the cost of the test is borne by the competitor making the request.

The DNA test result is one element used to determine the dog's affiliation or type. It is considered alongside the other criteria provided for in the regulations in order to determine its class.

The class retained for the dog is validated by the DCF Committee and applies to DCF events.

4.2 - Open Class

The Open Class includes the majority of dogs and is organised into height subclasses.

4.2.1 - Height subclasses

The subclasses of the Open Class are:

- -40 cm
- 40.1 to 45 cm
- 45.1 to 50 cm
- 50.1 to 55 cm

- 55.1 to 59.9 cm
- 60 cm and over

Height is measured at the withers, with the dog standing on a flat surface.

4.2.2 - Special rules linked to type

- Shepherd-type dogs measuring less than 50 cm at the withers are placed in the Open Class (-50 cm rule).
- Molossoid-type dogs weighing less than 26 kg are also placed in the Open Class.

Special case: LOF American Staffordshire Terrier

The LOF American Staffordshire Terrier is considered a terrier and not a molossoid. → It is therefore always placed in the Open Class, regardless of its weight.

For crossbred dogs with intermediate morphology (terrier type / molossoid type), allocation is determined case by case according to the dog's actual morphology and, if necessary, the procedure described in §4.1.3.

4.3 - Shepherd Class

The Shepherd Class is reserved for dogs identified as shepherd type according to the DCF nomenclature (list of breeds in the appendix).

4.3.1 - Height subclasses

The Shepherd Class is currently divided into three subclasses:

- B -58 cm: from 50.1 to 58 cm,
- B 58.1-63 cm,
- B +63 cm.

Shepherd-type dogs measuring less than 50 cm are not included in the Shepherd Class: they are placed in the Open Class in accordance with the -50 cm rule.

4.3.2 - Reference to official lists

Dog Cross Federation will publish and keep up to date:

- a list of shepherd-type breeds recognised for the Shepherd Class,
- instructions for crossbred or non-LOF dogs, in order to ensure consistent orientation (shepherd type or not).

In case of doubt, §4.1.3 - In case of doubt applies (Federation opinion, and potentially a DNA test).

4.4 - MO+26 Class

The MO+26 Class is reserved for molossoid-type dogs weighing 26 kg or more.

4.4.1 - Entry criteria

- Morphological type: molossoid (list and criteria defined by the Federation).
- Weight:
 - ≥ 26 kg: MO+26 Class,
 - < 26 kg: Open Class.

This is a single class, with no height subclasses.

4.4.2 - Weight control

Weight control concerns only molossoid-type dogs, in order to determine whether or not they fall within the MO+26 Class.

- The reference weight is measured on a reliable scale, preferably at the reference arena or during a DCF event.
- This measurement confirms whether the dog is:
 - < 26 kg → Open Class,
 - ≥ 26 kg → MO+26 Class.

If there is a significant and lasting change in weight that could alter the dog's class, a new weighing may be carried out and the class updated in accordance with DCF rules.

4.5 - Veteran status

Veteran status is an indication linked to the dog's age and is not a class in its own right.

4.5.1 - Age of eligibility

- Veteran status applies from the age of 8 years.
- It concerns all classes:
 - Open Class,
 - Shepherd Class,
 - MO+26 Class.

4.5.2 - Effects of veteran status

- The dog retains its class (Open, Shepherd, MO+26), with the simple addition of the word "Veteran" to its profile.
- The consequences of veteran status for:
 - any CH / Gd CH points in Open and Final, will be detailed in the chapter devoted to points and grades.

APPENDIX 1 - REFERENCE LIST OF BREEDS AND TYPES BY CLASS

This appendix serves as a common reference for arenas and the Federation for allocating dogs to the different DCF classes, in accordance with:

- official standards (Centrale Canine / FCI),
- the classification rules defined in Chapter 4 - Classes.

It is intended to evolve and may be updated by the Federation without amending the main text of the regulations.

A. Shepherd-type breeds - Shepherd Class

The breeds below are considered "shepherd type" by Dog Cross Federation.

Important reminder:

Any shepherd-type dog measuring less than 50 cm at the withers is placed in the Open Class, in accordance with the -50 cm rule (see §4.1.2 and §4.3).

A.1. List of DCF-recognised shepherd-type breeds

(List to be supplemented / adjusted by the Federation)

- German Shepherd Dog
- Belgian Shepherd Dog (Malinois, Tervueren, Groenendael, Laekenois)
- Australian Shepherd
- Australian Kelpie
- White Swiss Shepherd Dog
- Border Collie
- Beauceron
- Shetland Sheepdog

- Dutch Shepherd
- Other shepherd-type breeds recognised by the FCI (list updated on official channels)

A.2. Shepherd-type crossbred dogs

A crossbred dog may be considered shepherd type if its general morphology, build and available information on its origin are consistent with this type.

This remains valid even without registration in a stud book (LOF or equivalent).

In case of doubt:

- the arena refers the matter to the DCF contact person,
- and, if necessary, applies the procedure in §4.1.3 - In case of doubt (DCF opinion, DNA test if necessary).

B. Molossoid types - MO+26 Class

This section groups together dogs considered “molossoid type” by the DCF, used for access to the MO+26 Class (see §4.4).

Reminder:

- Molossoid type + weight $\geq$ 26 kg → MO+26 Class
- Molossoid type + weight < 26 kg → Open Class (with specific weight control, see §4.4.2)

B.1. List of molossoid types

(List to be supplemented / adjusted by the Federation)

Examples of molossoid types:

- American Bulldog
- Cane Corso
- Dogo Argentino
- Dogue de Bordeaux
- Bullmastiff
- Mastiff / Neapolitan Mastiff
- Other molossoid-type breeds recognised by the FCI (list updated on official channels)

B.2. Important note - American Staffordshire Terrier and other terriers

- The LOF American Staffordshire Terrier is considered a terrier and not a molossoid for DCF purposes.
- It is therefore always placed in the Open Class, regardless of its weight.

For crossbred dogs with intermediate morphology (terrier type / molossoid type):

- allocation is determined case by case, according to the dog’s actual morphology,
- and, in case of doubt, the procedure in §4.1.3 - In case of doubt applies (Federation opinion, DNA test if necessary).

C. Examples of classification by type

The examples below are provided for guidance to help arenas and handlers understand how the rules are applied. They do not replace reading Chapter 4.

C.1. Shepherd-type examples (-50 cm rule)

- Australian Kelpie measuring 47 cm → Open Class
 - (shepherd type, but < 50 cm → application of the -50 cm rule)
- Australian Kelpie measuring 52 cm → Shepherd Class (B -58)
- Australian Shepherd measuring 53 cm → Shepherd Class (B -58)

C.2. Molossoid-type examples

- American Bulldog weighing 24 kg → Open Class
 - (molossoid type, but < 26 kg)
- American Bulldog weighing 32 kg → MO+26 Class
- Cane Corso weighing 45 kg → MO+26 Class
- Dogo Argentino weighing 38 kg → MO+26 Class

D. Updating the appendix

This appendix may be updated by Dog Cross Federation (addition / removal of breeds, adjustment of criteria) in light of:

- discussions with reference canine organisations,
- feedback from arenas,
- developments in the regulations.

Updates will be communicated:

- to the arenas,

CHAPTER 5 - RUNNING A CUP

This chapter describes the standard running of a CUP:

- over one day when the event has 20 registered dogs or fewer,
- over two days as soon as the event has more than 20 registered dogs.

The organisational principles remain the same; only the distribution of attempts over one or two days is adapted by the arena.

The complete technical rules for each obstacle (validation, timer, warnings, crosses, Joker, etc.) are detailed in:

→ Chapter 3 - RULES FOR ATTEMPTS AND VALIDATION OF OBSTACLES

5.1 - General organisation

5.1.1 - CUP format and role of the Long Jump

A CUP may be organised:

- over one day (≤ 20 dogs),
- or over two days (> 20 dogs).

In all cases:

- the Long Jump must be held on Saturday;
- the objective is to offer at least 3 obstacles on Saturday in order to:
 - reduce the Sunday workload,
 - allow the day to finish at a reasonable time for all participants.

These 3 obstacles may be:

- 3 jumping obstacles (Long + 2 others),
- or 2 jumping obstacles + the 50 m Sprint.

If a fourth obstacle is scheduled, it may be:

- completed,
- or run entirely on Sunday.

5.1.2 - Measuring dogs without an official measurement

For any dog that does not yet have an official DCF measurement, a measuring session is organised by the arena before the start of the CUP:

- measuring takes place the day before (Friday) or on Saturday morning,
- the selected time slot is announced in advance by the arena on its communication channels (social media),
- the handler must attend the indicated time slot with the dog,
- measuring must be carried out before the dog's first attempt on an obstacle.

Without an official measurement carried out during these time slots, the dog may not start, in order to guarantee fair classification in the correct height class.

5.1.3 - Briefing and competitor information

At the start of the CUP, a general briefing must remind competitors of:

- the CUP format (1 day or 2 days),
- the schedule for the day (and for the weekend for two-day CUPs),
- the distribution of obstacles by day,
- the running order by class,
- how the 50 m Sprint operates (if scheduled),
- relaxation areas and cleanliness rules,
- the essential safety points:
 - warnings and crosses,
 - management of falls (particularly falling onto the back),

- entering and leaving obstacle areas,
- arena-specific instructions (car park access, movement of dogs, etc.).

The briefing also reminds competitors that:

- the detailed attempt rules for each obstacle are found in Chapter 3,
- classes and statuses (Open, Shepherds, MO+26, veterans) are in Chapter 4,
- this Chapter 5 serves as a practical guide to understanding the organisation of a CUP.

Competitors are invited to read all of the regulations (Chapters 1, 3, 4 and 5 as a priority) before the competition, in order to limit last-minute questions on points that have already been explained.

5.1.4 - Saturday

On Saturday, the arena organises as a priority:

- the Long Jump (compulsory),
- and at least two other obstacles (jumping and/or Sprint), in order to reach the minimum of 3 obstacles.

When the arena has sufficient facilities and staff, it may open two obstacles in parallel to make the day run more smoothly. In this case:

- on one obstacle, the smallest classes start first,
- on the other, the largest classes start first, in the following order:
 - Shepherds +63,
 - then B 58/63,
 - then the other large classes present.

If a class is empty, the next class actually present is simply called.

Class started = class completed

- Any class started on Saturday on an obstacle must be completed on Saturday on that obstacle.
- Classes not started on that obstacle may be opened on Sunday morning.

Time limit

- The arena sets and announces a maximum end time for the day (for example: no attempts after 8:00 pm).
- Before that time, the arena informs competitors:
 - which obstacles and classes have been completed,
 - what will be resumed or started on Sunday.

5.1.5 - Sunday

Sunday is devoted to:

- completing classes or obstacles not finished the previous day,
- organising the 50 m Sprint if it was not held on Saturday,
- then rankings, podiums and prize-giving at the end of the day.

5.1.6 - Special case: Open and Final

For the Open and the Final, the event must be organised over two days.

The organisation of attempts is specific:

- dogs compete in class blocks,
- up to four obstacles operate at the same time,
- only the 50 m Sprint is run as a single obstacle, with no other obstacle operating in parallel.

The detailed procedures (order of blocks, times, precise distribution of classes) are set by the DCF and communicated for each Open and Final.

5.2 - Running order and class management

5.2.1 - Running order

For each obstacle, the arena establishes a running order according to:

- the classes,
- the number of dogs,
- and the overall CUP schedule.

As a general rule:

- the smallest classes start first,
- then progression is made towards the largest classes.

When two obstacles are open in parallel, the arena may distribute the classes between the two:

- to balance waiting queues,
- and reduce waiting time for dog-handler teams.

5.2.2 - Lateness and absences

- A dog absent at the time of its attempt may be:
 - called back later within the same class,
 - or recorded as “not presented” if the handler does not come forward.
- To limit delays:
 - the schedule and running orders must be clearly displayed and announced,
 - handlers are responsible for anticipating their turn and presenting themselves at the obstacle on time.

The precise arrangements (recall period, lateness tolerance) are at the arena’s discretion.

5.3 - Attempts, timer and management of measurements in CUP

The official principles are defined in Chapter 3:

- number of attempts per measurement,
- operation of timers (for example the 1-minute timer at the Long Jump),
- validation / non-validation rules,
- warnings and crosses,
- use of the Joker (§3.0.6).

This section shows how these rules apply in practice during a CUP.

5.3.1 - Summary reminder

On a jumping obstacle (Hedge, Long, High, Wall), for each announced measurement (distance or height):

- the team has a maximum of 3 attempts to validate that measurement;
- as long as the 3 attempts have not been used, and in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3, the handler may:
 - try the same measurement again,
 - or, in certain cases, play the Joker (see §3.0.6);
- when an obstacle is subject to a timer (for example the 1-minute timer at the Long Jump after landing), that timer is applied on the field by the judge or scoring table;
- after 3 non-validated attempts at the same measurement, it is impossible to return to that measurement during the same event.

5.3.2 - Examples: 3 attempts at the same measurement

Case 1 - Hedge: 1.00 m failed 3 times in succession

- The handler announces Hedge at 1.00 m.
- The dog attempts the hedge at 1.00 m 3 times and fails all 3 attempts (bar falls, refusal, problematic landing, etc.).

Result:

- The 1.00 m height is not validated.
- The last height validated before 1.00 m is retained (if there was one).
- If 1.00 m was the first announced height: → the team has no result on the Hedge for this CUP.

Case 2 - High Jump: 1.60 m validated, then 1.60 m attempted again and failed

- The handler announces High Jump at 1.60 m.
- The dog validates 1.60 m.
- Later, the handler chooses to attempt 1.60 m again (for strategy, reassurance, or by mistake).
- On this new attempt at 1.60 m, all 3 attempts are failed.

Result:

- The first validation of 1.60 m remains acquired.
- The team will not be able to go higher on the High Jump in this CUP.
- The best performance retained on this obstacle remains 1.60 m.

Case 3 - Long Jump: 4.00 m validated, 4.50 m failed

- The handler announces Long Jump at 4.00 m.
- The dog validates 4.00 m.
- The handler then announces 4.50 m (normal progression).
- The dog attempts 4.50 m 3 times and fails all 3 attempts (bar falls, "mordu" jump, out of zone, etc.).

Result:

- The 4.50 m distance is not validated.
- The 4.00 m distance, already validated, remains the team's best Long Jump performance for this CUP.

In all these cases:

- as soon as a precise measurement (1.00 m, 1.60 m, 4.50 m, etc.) has been the subject of 3 non-validated attempts, → the team may not request that same measurement again in the same event;
- only the last lower measurement validated is retained, if there is one.

5.3.3 - Example of using the Joker (Wall Climb)

The Joker is defined in §3.0.6:

- one Joker only per team and per competition (CUP, Open, Final),
- usable on a jumping obstacle,
- allows the measurement to be changed to an equal or higher measurement,
- gives only one attempt at that Joker measurement,
- in the event of failure: 0 performance on the obstacle concerned.

Concrete Wall Climb example:

- The team has already validated the Wall at 2.80 m.
- It then announces 2.90 m:
 - 1st attempt at 2.90 m → failed,
 - 2nd attempt at 2.90 m → failed.

Only 1 attempt remains in this sequence.

At this point, the handler has two options:

1. make a conventional 3rd attempt at 2.90 m,
 2. or play the Joker and announce 3.00 m for this final attempt.
- If the Joker at 3.00 m is validated:
 - the 3.00 m height becomes the team's official best Wall performance for this CUP.
 - If the Joker at 3.00 m is not validated:
 - the Joker is lost,
 - a 0 performance is awarded for the Wall,

- the CUP retains no result on this obstacle for that team, even if 2.80 m had previously been validated.

The Joker is a sporting gamble, a real challenge to be used only when the handler feels genuinely confident with the dog.

5.4 - Puppy Time

When puppies are registered, a Puppy Time may be organised alongside the CUP.

It is a non-competitive introductory workshop intended for:

- desensitising puppies to the environment (public, noise, sound system, applause),
- a first positive exposure to DCF structures.

Placement during the weekend:

- ideally on Saturday at the end of the day,
- or on Sunday after the 50 m Sprint,

so that the puppies can work in front of people and benefit fully from this experience.

Measurement rules (safety first):

- Hedge: height less than or equal to the puppy's height at the withers;
- Long Jump: distance less than or equal to 5 times the height at the withers;
- Wall & High: height left to the sound judgement of the judge and handler, according to the puppy's age, growth and physical condition;
- 50 m Sprint: 1 run only per puppy.

Puppy Time gives no ranking, no points and no cross.

Specific conditions of participation (in particular the absence of a compulsory licence for Puppy Time) are specified in Chapter 1 - Regulations on entitlements and conditions of participation.

CHAPTER 6 - POINTS

This chapter describes the points system used in DCF; the rules apply to all DCF competitions: CUP, Open and Final.

6.1 - Standard points by obstacle

6.1.1 - Points scale

For each obstacle, a ranking by class is established.

The “standard” points awarded for the obstacle are:

- 1st: 10 points
- 2nd: 9 points
- 3rd: 8 points
- 4th: 7 points
- 5th: 6 points
- 6th: 5 points
- 7th: 4 points
- 8th: 3 points
- 9th: 2 points
- 10th: 1 point
- From 11th place onwards: 0 points

These points are then used to establish the overall CUP ranking by class (BIS).

6.1.2 - Ties on an obstacle

In the event of a tie on a given obstacle (within the same class):

- if two or more dogs finish with the same performance (same height / distance / time) and the same number of attempts, they are declared tied;
- each tied dog receives exactly the same number of points corresponding to that rank.

The ranking uses the skipped-rank system (ties), already used in Agility, Canicross, Disc Dog or Dock Diving.

There is no additional tie-break at obstacle level (no height/weight criterion at this stage).

Example 1

Two dogs finish tied for 3rd → They each receive 8 points, and the next dog is ranked 5th (6 points).

Example 2

Two dogs finish tied for 1st → They each receive 10 points, and the next dog is ranked 3rd (8 points).

6.2 - BIS points (“Champion” points)

BIS (Best In Sport) are calculated from the sum of the standard points obtained across all obstacles.

BIS points make it possible to obtain Champion points (CH pts) used for progression through DCF grades.

6.2.1 - BIS scale in CUP

For a class with at least 3 dogs, Champion points are awarded according to the BIS ranking:

- 1st BIS: 10 CH points
- 2nd BIS: 6 CH points
- 3rd BIS: 3 CH points
- 4th BIS: 1 CH point
- from 5th place onwards: 0 CH points

Classes of 1 or 2 dogs

When a class has only 1 or 2 dogs, the ranking is considered honorary.

There is no official BIS for the purposes of the Champion ranking.

In the scoring table, participation is recorded with 0 BIS points in order to retain a record of participation.

Dogs already holding a grade

For a dog that is already Champion or of a higher grade, Champion points linked to BIS are acquired only when it finishes 1st BIS in its class.

If it finishes 2nd or lower, it keeps the standard points obtained on the obstacles, but receives no CH points for the BIS.

The grade of the dog it competes against does not prevent the award of its own points: a lower-grade dog beaten by a higher-grade dog retains the points corresponding to its placing when the award conditions are met.

6.2.2 - BIS scale in Open and Final

For the Open and the Final, the scale is:

- 1st BIS: 15 CH points
- 2nd BIS: 10 CH points
- 3rd BIS: 5 CH points
- 4th BIS: 2 CH points

The same rules concerning honorary classes and dogs already holding a grade apply.

6.2.3 - Veterans in Open / Final

In Open and Final, by way of derogation from the rule applicable to dogs already holding a grade, a veteran Champion (CH) or higher-grade dog ranked in the top 4 BIS may obtain the Champion points corresponding to its place.

6.2.4 - Grade bonus

A bonus of +5 Champion points is awarded when a dog:

- finishes 1st BIS in its class;
- and finishes ahead of at least one dog of a higher grade than its own.

This bonus is awarded only once per competition, regardless of:

- the number of higher-grade dogs beaten;
- the difference between the grades.

It is added to the Champion points obtained in the BIS ranking and is taken into account for grade progression.

Examples:

- a CH Grade 1 finishes 1st ahead of a Grade 2 → +5 CH points;
- a Grade 2 finishes 1st ahead of a Grade 4 → +5 CH points;
- a CH Grade 1 finishes 1st ahead of a Grade 2 and a Grade 4 → +5 CH points in total, not +10.

This is indeed the rule found in the 2026 scoring book: bonus reserved for 1st BIS, capped at +5, regardless of the number of higher grades beaten or the difference between the grades.

6.3 - Ties in the overall ranking (BIS)

In the event of equal points in the overall CUP ranking (BIS ranking), the teams are separated according to the following criteria, in order:

1. Number of crosses in the CUP

- The dog with the fewest crosses over the whole competition (all obstacles combined) ranks ahead.
 - A dog with no cross is therefore advantaged over a dog with one or more crosses.
2. **Sum of ranks (consistency)**
- If the number of crosses is the same, the placings obtained on each obstacle are added together.
 - The dog with the lowest sum of ranks (therefore the most consistent) is advantaged.
3. **Best Sprint ranking**
- If the tie remains, the rank obtained in the 50 m Sprint is compared.
 - The dog with the better Sprint ranking ranks ahead.
4. **Height at the withers**
- If everything is still strictly identical, the advantage goes to the smaller dog (height at the withers measured using the official DCF measuring stick).

Example:

Case where one of the two dogs has a cross:

Dogs A and B both finish the competition with 27 points overall.

Step 1: Checking crosses

- Dog A: no cross
- Dog B: 1 cross

→ Dog A is automatically ranked ahead, without applying any further criteria.

Case where neither dog has a cross:

Dogs C and D each have 18 points and 0 crosses.

Step 2: Consistency

Their ranks are added together:

Obstacle	C	D
High	1	6
Wall	7	14
Hedge	7	5
Long	10	15
Sprint	12	4

- Total ranks C = $1 + 7 + 7 + 10 + 12 = 38$
- Total ranks D = $6 + 14 + 5 + 15 + 4 = 44$

→ Dog C is the most consistent.

→ It is therefore ranked ahead of D.

Case where consistency is identical:

Dogs E and F have:

- the same total points
- no cross
- the same sum of ranks

Step 3: Sprint

- Dog E: 5th
- Dog F: 9th

→ Dog E ranks ahead.

Exceptional case where the Sprint is also tied:

→ The smaller dog ranks ahead.

6.4 - Arena Record (RA)

An Arena Record (RA) corresponds to the best result recorded in a given arena on a specific obstacle. When a team sets or beats a validated RA, it receives a bonus of +5 standard points in addition to the points linked to its placing on the obstacle.

This bonus is awarded only if the team receives no cross during the whole CUP, including when the CUP takes place over two days.

If there is a cross, no RA bonus is awarded.

6.5 - European Record (RE)

A European Record (RE) corresponds to the best result recognised by the DCF, across all arenas, on a specific obstacle.

When a team sets or beats a validated RE, it receives, in addition to the points linked to its placing on the obstacle:

- +10 standard points if the 4 official RE minimums are achieved over the whole CUP;
- +5 standard points if the record is validated but the 4 minimums are not all achieved.

These bonuses are awarded only if the team receives no cross over the whole CUP, including when it takes place over two days.

If there is a cross, no RE bonus is awarded.

6.6 - BIR points (Best In Record)

BIR points reward teams that achieve records (RA or RE).

6.6.1 - BIR scale

- Validated RA: 1 BIR point;
- Validated RE: 2 BIR points or 1 BIR point

6.6.2 - Conditions for awarding BIR points

- For an RA, the BIR point is awarded if:
 - the RA is validated,
 - and the team has no cross during the CUP.
- For an RE:
 - 2 BIR points are awarded only if:
 - * the 4 minimums are achieved over the whole CUP,
 - * and the team has no cross during the CUP.
 - 1 BIR point is awarded only if:
 - * the record is validated but the 4 minimums are not all achieved over the whole CUP, without any cross.
- In the event of a cross (RA or RE), no BIR point is awarded, even if the record was achieved.

BIR points are taken into account in the grade and honours systems, according to the rules detailed in Chapter 7 - Grades.

CHAPTER 7 - GRADES

Grades are working titles that reward the consistency and performance level of dog-handler teams over time.

They are obtained through:

- Champion points (CH pts),
- BIS rankings,
- and, indirectly, records and BIR points, according to the system described in Chapter 6 - Points.

DCF grades are as follows:

- Grade 1: Champion (CH)
- Grade 2: Grand Champion (Gd CH)
- Grade 3: Grand Champion Level 3
- Grade 4: Grand Champion Level 4
- Grade 5: Grand Champion Level 5

7.1 - Champion (CH) - Grade 1

The title of DCF Champion (Grade 1) is the first DCF grade.

To obtain this title, the dog-handler team must meet two cumulative conditions.

7.1.1 - Points required

The team must accumulate at least 100 Champion points (CH pts).

Champion points are acquired according to the rules defined in Chapter 6 - Points.

7.1.2 - Requirement for a 1st BIS

In addition to 100 Champion points, the team must have finished at least once as 1st BIS in its class, in a DCF competition where the class has at least 3 dogs at the start.

An honorary BIS obtained in a class of 1 or 2 dogs does not satisfy this condition.

This 1st BIS may have been obtained:

- before reaching 100 Champion points;
- or after reaching or exceeding this threshold.

As soon as the team has:

1. 100 Champion points or more;
2. at least one 1st BIS in a class of 3 dogs or more;

it obtains the title DCF Champion - Grade 1.

7.2 - Grand Champion (Gd CH) - Grade 2

The title DCF Grand Champion (Grade 2) is the level above Champion.

7.2.1 - Points required

To access Grade 2, the team must:

- accumulate at least 200 Champion points;
- the points acquired before obtaining Grade 1 are retained and counted in this total.

7.2.2 - Requirement for a 1st BIS while already Champion

In addition to 200 Champion points, the team must have finished at least once as 1st BIS while already Champion (Grade 1), in a class with at least 3 dogs at the start.

It is not necessary for this BIS to be obtained against other graded dogs.

The team may therefore satisfy this condition by finishing 1st BIS ahead of ungraded dogs, provided the conditions set out in the regulations are met.

7.2.3 - DCF Behaviour Test (TC)

From Grade 2 onwards, validation of the grade is conditional upon passing the DCF Behaviour Test (TC).

As long as the TC has not been validated, the team:

- may continue to participate in CUPs, Opens and Finals;
- may continue to accumulate points;
- may reach the thresholds corresponding to Grades 2, 3, 4 or 5;

but the grade or grades concerned remain pending validation of the TC.

As soon as the TC is validated, grades for which the other conditions have already been met may be validated by the DCF.

The TC therefore does not prevent competition participation or point progression. It only conditions the validation of Grade 2 and higher grades.

7.3 - Grades 3, 4 and 5 - Higher Grand Champion levels

Grades 3, 4 and 5 correspond to the higher levels of Grand Champion and reward the team's progression and consistency over time.

7.3.1 - Point thresholds

The following thresholds apply:

- Grade 3: 300 Champion points
- Grade 4: 400 Champion points
- Grade 5: 450 Champion points

Champion points are accumulated from the beginning of the dog's DCF career and are retained when moving from one grade to another.

7.3.2 - Additional conditions

For Grades 3, 4 and 5:

- points are counted according to the rules defined in Chapter 6 - Points;
- the results taken into account must have been obtained at DCF events organised in accordance with the regulations in force;
- the TC must be validated in order for the grade to be validated.

No additional number of BIS results is required for Grades 3, 4 and 5 beyond the conditions already necessary to access Grade 2.

7.4 - Retention of points and grades

Points and results acquired by the dog within DCF are retained throughout its career, in accordance with the rules provided for in these regulations.

A validated grade - Champion, Grand Champion, Grades 3, 4 or 5 - is permanently acquired.

The team therefore retains its grade even if its subsequent performances are lower and continues to participate according to the rules corresponding to its status.

In the event of an exceptional disciplinary situation that may affect results or grades, the decision falls within the remit of the DCF Committee.

In the event of a major change to the grade regulations, the DCF specifies any transition rules applicable to grades already acquired.

CHAPTER 8 - DCF BEHAVIOUR TEST (TC)

The DCF Behaviour Test (TC) is a tool created by the DCF to assess how a dog manages the specific environment of a DCF competition (CUP, Open, Final, General Meeting, etc.).

From the 2025 season, the TC becomes a compulsory prerequisite for official validation of Grade 2 (Grand Champion) and any higher grade (see Chapter 7 - Grades).

8.1 - Purpose of the TC

The purpose of the TC is:

- to observe the dog's behaviour in a DCF context (public, noise, waiting areas, organisation, competition constraints),
- to check that the dog can progress without distress or excessive constraints imposed by the handler,
- to identify areas of work that can improve the dog's calmness and therefore its performance over time.

The TC is not:

- a sociability test (the aim is not to determine whether the dog is "nice" to everyone),
- an obedience or training test,
- a tool intended to blame or stigmatise dog-handler teams.

The DCF points out that it has always welcomed dogs that are reactive to people or other dogs, and that this sport has helped many dogs experiencing difficulties.

The TC is not intended to exclude reactive dogs, but to understand how they experience the DCF environment and to help handlers prepare them better.

8.2 - Who the TC is for

The TC is available to:

- DCF-licensed competitors,
- non-licensed handlers who wish to know whether their dog is suited to the DCF environment.

It becomes compulsory only for:

- teams wishing to validate Grade 2 (Gd CH),
- and, beyond that, any higher grade (Grades 3, 4, 5, etc.).

Dogs already holding a CSAU or another behaviour test must also pass the DCF TC if they wish to validate Grade 2 or higher.

For the great majority of participants who are not aiming for these grades:

the TC remains optional and in no way prevents participation in CUPs, Opens or Finals.

8.3 - General content of the TC

8.3.1 - Test format

The TC takes the form of a marked course made up of 20 stations.

These stations reproduce or are inspired by interactions and situations encountered during DCF competitions, for example:

- microchip check by a "mock veterinarian" using a real reader,
- measuring situation (setting similar to the official measuring procedure),
- going onto a podium,
- passing people, movements in waiting areas,
- visual or sound stimuli comparable to those of a CUP / Open / Final, etc.

The stations are not described in detail in the regulations, in order to:

- preserve the spontaneity of the behaviour observed,
- maintain a natural aspect to the assessment.

8.3.2 - Expected behaviour

The TC does not require a “perfect” dog, but a dog capable of:

- progressing through the course,
- reasonably tolerating the proposed situations,
- not showing signs of severe distress linked to constraints imposed by the handler.

Important point:

No direct human contact is compulsory as part of the TC, and refusing human contact is not disqualifying.

The assessment concerns:

- how the dog manages the DCF environment,
- how the handler accompanies the dog without “pushing” it excessively,
- the possible presence of signs of fear, concern or refusal incompatible with calm participation in competition.

8.4 - Practical organisation of the TC

8.4.1 - Frequency and locations

From the 2025 season, TC sessions are offered during the season at events and sites designated by the DCF. Dates and locations are communicated through official channels.

The TC is notably offered:

- on DCF training dates organised at HDB’s Arena HQ,
- as well as in Bourges during various events: OPEN, FINAL, CUP, General Meeting,
- and potentially at other sites validated and announced by the DCF.

Available dates and locations are communicated via official channels (website, arenas, federal communication).

8.4.2 - Number of attempts

- The TC may be taken at any time during the dog’s career.
- A single validation of the TC is sufficient for the entire career of the team:
 - it does not need to be taken again once obtained,
 - unless the handler wishes to take it again for personal reasons.
- In the event of failure, the TC may be retaken as many times as necessary, subject to the following limit:
 - it is prohibited to take more than one TC during the same weekend.

8.4.3 - Fees

The following fees apply (subject to adjustment by the DCF):

- €15 for the first TC attempt,
- €10 for each subsequent attempt following non-validation.

8.4.4 - Certificate

If successful, the team:

- receives a DCF certificate validating the TC,
- intended to be stuck or added into the dog’s working record book.

This certificate is recognised by the DCF for grade validation purposes (see Chapter 7).

8.5 - TC scoring

The TC is scored out of 20 points.

- To validate the test, at least 18/20 must be obtained.

- Once the TC is validated, it is considered acquired for the dog's entire career (except in the event of an exceptional disciplinary decision).

In the event of failure (score < 18/20):

- the handler may choose to retake the TC on another date,
- the team may continue to participate in DCF competitions and accumulate points (see below).

8.6 - Link between TC, participation and grades

The TC is entirely independent of sporting participation and points:

- it awards no points (neither standard points, Champion points nor BIR points),
- it never prevents registration for or participation in a CUP, Open or Final,
- it does not prevent accumulation of:
 - standard points,
 - Champion points (CH pts),
 - BIR points,
 - RA / RE records.

However, from 2025:

- official validation of Grade 2 (Grand Champion),
- as well as validation of any higher grade (Grades 3, 4, 5)

is conditional upon:

1. reaching the point and result thresholds defined in Chapter 7 - Grades,
2. and validation of a TC.

As long as the TC has not been validated:

- a team may reach the point thresholds for Grade 2, 3, 4, 5,
- but its grades remain in "pending TC validation" status and cannot be officially certified.

As soon as the TC is validated:

- Grade 2 may be certified (if the points and BIS conditions are met),
- higher grades (3, 4, 5) may be certified as soon as the required point thresholds are crossed.

CHAPTER 9 - SPECIFIC CHALLENGES

(TEAM, THE GOAT, JUMP 300)

This chapter presents the specific challenges set up by Dog Cross Federation:

- the TEAM Challenge, a team championship,
- the THE GOAT Challenge, an exceptional individual title,
- the JUMP 300 - DCF Europe promotional event.

These systems supplement the general sporting regulations without modifying them.

9.1 - TEAM CHALLENGE

9.1.1 - General principle

The TEAM Challenge is a team championship organised over an entire DCF sporting season.

It aims to promote:

- team spirit;
- cohesion;
- the consistency of dog-handler teams.

At the end of the season, one or more Teams may be rewarded according to their ranking and general attitude.

The TEAM Challenge is independent of HDB's Arena: dogs in the same Team may be affiliated with different arenas.

9.1.2 - Composition of a Team

A Team must meet the following criteria:

- be made up of 5 dogs, each holding a current DCF licence,
- appoint a captain (reference handler),
- choose a unique Team name,
- if possible, have an associated logo or visual.

Teams are independent of arenas:

handlers are free to group together, provided they do not use a Team name that already exists.

a) Distribution by morphological groups

For the purposes of the TEAM Challenge, dogs are divided into two groups:

- Group A:
 - all shepherd-type dogs,
 - the 45/50 and 50/55 height classes.
- Group B:
 - classes -40, 40/45, 55/60, 60+,
 - and MO-type dogs (molossoids).

The composition of a Team must comply with the following rule:

- a maximum of 2 dogs from Group B,
- a Team may be made up exclusively of dogs from Group A.

If a dog changes group (for example due to a change in height during the season), the composition of the Team remains unchanged for the current season.

b) Substitute

A Team may declare a substitute dog at the time of registration:

- the substitute must belong to the same group (A or B) as the dog it may replace,
- if the substitute enters the competition:
 - its points restart from zero for the TEAM Challenge,
 - it must also meet the participation requirements (CUP / Open) like the other dogs,

- once a dog has been replaced, it may not be reinstated in place of the substitute during the same season.

9.1.3 - Registration and annual renewal

The TEAM Challenge operates on an annual basis:

- Teams are declared for a specific season,
- at each new season, Team lists are reset,
- Teams must be recreated or reconfirmed (name, list of dogs, captain, possible substitute).

A Team is registered:

- either directly with the Federation (according to the procedures communicated),
- or through an arena manager.

The minimum information to be provided is:

- Team name,
- list of the 5 dogs indicating their group (A or B),
- captain's name,
- identity of any substitute,
- logo or visual if the Team wishes to appear in official communications.

9.1.4 - Mandatory away event for each dog

From the 2025 season, an additional condition applies to Teams participating in the TEAM Challenge: Each dog in the Team must complete at least one mandatory away event during the season.

This away event must correspond to:

- either participation in an Open,
- or participation in a CUP organised in a different sector from its usual arena.

This rule is intended to encourage:

- Team mobility,
- representation of the Federation in different sectors,
- sporting activity across the entire DCF territory.

9.1.5 - Calculation of the TEAM ranking

The TEAM Challenge ranking is calculated over the whole season, up to the Final.

The general principles are as follows:

- 1. Type of points taken into account**
 - The TEAM Challenge is based on the dogs' ranking points (standard points) (see Chapter 6),
 - and not on Champion points (CH pts).
- 2. Minimum number of competitions**
 - To be fully ranked, a Team must have participated in at least 5 DCF CUPs,
 - Opens count as a CUP for this calculation.
- 3. Results retained**
 - The Federation retains the Team's 5 best totals over the season (CUP / Open),
 - these 5 best results are added together to obtain the Team's main score.
- 4. Final and full-participation bonus**
 - If all 5 dogs in the Team participate in the Final,
 - a 50-point bonus is added to the Team's total.
- 5. Priority for full attendance at the Final**
 - If a Team is unable to bring all 5 dogs to the Final,
 - a Team with a lower gross points total but which presents all 5 of its dogs at the Final may be ranked ahead of it in the final standings.

Technical details (management of withdrawals, ties, etc.) may be specified in a supplementary technical note.

9.1.6 - TEAM Challenge awards

At the end of the season, the Federation may award:

- a main trophy to the Team winning the ranking,
- additional awards to the other ranked Teams,
- an honorary trophy to a Team that is particularly remarkable for its:
 - fair play,
 - story,
 - spirit,
 - way of representing the Federation.

The exact award arrangements may change from one season to another.

9.2 - THE GOAT CHALLENGE

9.2.1 - General principle

The THE GOAT Challenge - Greatest Of All Time - is an exceptional individual distinction.

It rewards a dog-handler team that has had a particularly consistent and high-performing season on a specific obstacle and in a specific class.

The title is awarded for a given season in the form:

THE G.O.A.T [year]

It may be included in the DCF Hall of Fame.

9.2.2 - Conditions for obtaining the title

To obtain the THE G.O.A.T title for a season, the team must meet all of the following conditions:

1. Remain undefeated

The team must record no defeat on the obstacle and in the class concerned during the period taken into account.

2. Mandatory participations

The team must have participated in:

- at least 5 CUPs;
- and the Final.

That is a minimum of 5 CUPs + the Final during the season.

3. Victory in the Final

The team must finish first on the obstacle and in the class concerned at the Final.

The THE GOAT title therefore distinguishes a team:

- undefeated over the period considered;
- having participated in at least 5 CUPs and the Final;
- winner at the Final on the obstacle and in the class concerned.

9.2.3 - Tie management

If several teams meet the conditions for obtaining the title, they are separated in the following order:

1. Number of BIS obtained in a class with at least 3 dogs;
2. Number of Arena Records and/or European Records;
3. Total ranking points obtained over the season.

If the tie remains despite these criteria, the DCF Committee may validate a final tie-break criterion or decide to award the title jointly.

9.2.4 - Distinctions linked to the title

The team obtaining the THE G.O.A.T title may in particular receive:

- a specific trophy;
- promotion on DCF communication channels;
- a special mention on the following season's materials;
- personalised clothing or equipment bearing the dog's name and the title obtained.

Awards may be adapted according to the season.

The THE GOAT (Greatest Of All Time) challenge is an exceptional individual challenge.

It aims to distinguish a dog-handler team that has had a near-perfect season, both in terms of results and consistency, on a specific obstacle and in a specific class.

The title is generally presented in the form:

THE G.O.A.T [year] (for example: THE G.O.A.T 2025).

This title is intended to be linked to the DCF "HALL OF FAME".

9.3 - JUMP 300 - DCF EUROPE PROMOTIONAL EVENT

9.3.1 - Principle and objectives

JUMP 300 is a DCF Europe promotional event created for the launch of the 2025-2026 season.

It is organised by participating HDB's Arena according to the procedures defined by the DCF.

Its objectives are:

- to introduce DCF to a wide audience;
- to offer a fun format that is easy to understand;
- to showcase HDB's Arena;
- to create a common event around the launch of the season.

JUMP 300 is:

- free;
- without points: no standard, Champion or BIR points;
- without an individual ranking;
- without a compulsory working record book.

9.3.2 - Participation and registration

JUMP 300 is open to dogs with or without a DCF licence.

Registrations are made directly with each participating HDB's Arena.

Each arena may accommodate a maximum of 15 dogs.

No minimum number of participants is imposed.

Registrations are taken on the principle:

First come = first registered.

No registration fee is charged by the DCF for this event.

9.3.3 - Sporting concept

JUMP 300 takes place over 4 obstacles, completed in the same order by all participating arenas:

1. Long Jump
2. Wall Climb
3. Hedge Jump
4. High Jump

The objective is to total 300 jumps per arena by adding together the attempts made by all dogs across the four obstacles.

Each dog performs the same number of jumps per obstacle.

Example:

15 dogs × 5 jumps × 4 obstacles = 300 jumps.

The arena adapts the number of jumps per dog according to the actual number of participants.

9.3.4 - Technical rules and safety

DCF rules relating to structures, safety and obstacle attempts remain applicable during JUMP 300.

For Wall Climb and High Jump:

when a cross is awarded, the dog immediately stops its attempts on the obstacle concerned and the remaining jumps to be completed on that obstacle are counted as 0.

For Long Jump and Hedge Jump, the event follows the DCF technical rules adapted to the cumulative JUMP 300 format.

9.3.5 - Calculation of results

JUMP 300 results in a ranking between participating HDB's Arena, and not an individual ranking of dogs.

For each dog and each obstacle, validated performances are converted into centimetres.

Example for Long Jump:

- jump 1: 4.50 m → 450;
- jump 2: 4.50 m → 450;
- jump 3: not validated → 0;
- jump 4: 4.30 m → 430;
- jump 5: 4.00 m → 400.

Long Jump total: 1,730.

Each HDB's Arena then adds together the results of all its dogs across the four obstacles.

The resulting total constitutes the arena's JUMP 300 result.

The DCF centralises the results of the participating arenas and establishes the ranking for the edition.

The HDB's Arena obtaining the highest total wins JUMP 300.

9.3.6 - Awards

JUMP 300 gives rise to:

- no individual ranking;
- no DCF points;
- no impact on grades or individual sporting results.

A JUMP 300 DCF trophy is awarded to the HDB's Arena with the best result.

For the edition organised to mark the launch of the 2025-2026 season, the trophy is presented at the DCF Final of the season concerned.