



**Finnish Siberian Husky Club [SHS]**

# **Trial Rules for Sled Dogs**

Accepted by Finnish Kennel Club [FKC] Council on 20th of May, 2004  
Valid from 1st of August, 2004

This document is downloadable at

<http://www.siperianhusky.fi/?l=en>  
→ Racing and trial rules

## **1. The purpose of Trials for Sled dogs**

The purpose of trials for sled dogs is to find out the hauling/pulling, speed and obedience qualities of sled dogs intended for breeding purposes, to develop enthusiasts and their mutual co-operation and to offer racing opportunities according to these rules.

## **2. Trial Types**

Sled dog trials can characteristically be races, breed specific trials and races, open or only allowed between club members. Trials are of two types: 1) racing test and working test.

## **3. Participating rights and restrictions**

### Rights

Dogs participating in a trial shall be at least fifteen (15) months old in 3-10 dog teams and at least eighteen (18) months old in over ten (10) dog teams. Dogs participating in trials have to be registered [in the FKC or valid FCI registry], vaccinated and ID-marked [tattoo or microchip] according to the FKC rules.

### Restrictions

Dogs that are not allowed to participate in a trial:

1. A sick dog
2. A pregnant bitch thirty (30) days before delivery and forty two (42) days after delivery.
3. A dog that has been given medication against FKC doping rules.
4. A bitch in season is not eligible to participate in working trial team.

Racing test can be organized in 3-4 dog teams only if at least three (3) teams are participating. All dogs in a racing test team must be of the same breed.

Working test can be organized only if at least three (3) teams have entered.

The trial committee has the right to restrict the number of participating dogs if the trial arrangements require.

The dog owners will be informed about the acceptance to attend a trial latest on the last day of entry. The trial committee and head judge have to check the eligibility.

## **4.Changes to rules and guidelines**

The Finnish Kennel Club verifies the changes to these rules.

# Racing test

Racing test is held at a sled dog race.

The following merits/prizes are used for the racing test:

**Excellent (REK1)**

**Good (REK2)**

**Accepted (REK3)**

**Disqualified (REK0)**

The merits are reached according to the following table:

Base time when the number of competing teams are:

2–10            The 2 firsts average time

11–20          The 3 firsts average time

Over 21        The 4 firsts average time

Excellent      REK1      Time under 105 % of base time

Good            REK2      Time under 120 % of base time

Accepted        REK3      Time under 130 % of base time

Disqualified    REK0      Time over 130 % of base time

- A dog which is dropped out of the race does not get a merit.

When calculating the base times, only teams consisting of dogs of the same breed are counted and the trial merits are granted for different breeds separately.

# Working test

Working test consists of two parts, driving section and obedience section, where the qualities of the participating dog are judged.

Working test can be held in **team dog class (REKÄ-YLE)** or **leader dog class (REKÄ-JOH)**.

## Driving section

The team has to consist of 4-7 dogs or enough according to conditions. The trial length must be long enough according to conditions and it has to comprise various terrains. The trial distance should be driven without actual pause. The weight of the burden has to be at least the weight of the team, including the weight of the judge, driver and the vehicle (sled/cart). The driver is allowed to help the team if the terrain so requires.

The driving section is driven in a terrain which includes:

- Road or corresponding clear track
- Terrain, where there is no clearly noted track

## In the driving section the following parts are evaluated:

A turns to the right and left 0-5 points

B full about turn 0-5 points

C crossing a road 0-5 points

D halting the dog 0-5 points

E encountering a moving vehicle 0-5 points

F encountering an another team 0-5 points

G general control of the dog 0-5 points

H working motivation 0-10 points

Obedience section 0-5 points

Co-operation and conduct 0-10 points

The following merits are used in the Working test

**Excellent REKÄ1 53-60 points**

**Good REKÄ2 40-52 points**

**Accepted REKÄ3 32-39 points**

**Disqualified REKÄ0 Less than 32 points or 0 points in any of a-h parts or in evaluating conduct or co-operation**

## Working test points

Sections a-h maximum 45 points.

Obedience and conduct and co-operation maximum 15 points.

Alltogether maximum 60 points.

# Guidelines for judging the Working test

Accepted by the FKC Board on 19th of February, 2004

Valid from 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 2004

## 1. The driving section

In the driving section the following are evaluated

A turns to the right and left

B full about turn

C crossing a road

D halting the dog

E encountering a moving motor vehicle

F encountering an another team

G general control of the dog

H working motivation

Section a: turns to the right and left

Points

- 4 - 5 The dog turns on command
- 2 - 3 The dog turns after several commands
- 1 The dog turns only after several commands and causes a possibility of tangling the team
- 0 The dog turns repeatedly wrong, does not turn or causes the tangling of the team

Section b: full about turn

Points

- 4 - 5 The dog turns on command
- 2 - 3 The dog turns after several commands
- 1 The dog turns only after several commands and causes a possibility of tangling the team
- 0 The dog turns repeatedly wrong, does not turn or causes the tangling of the team

Section c: crossing a road

Points

- 4 - 5 The crossing occurs on command
- 2 - 3 The crossing occurs after several commands or guidance
- 1 The crossing occurs only after several commands or the dog causes a possibility of tangling the team
- 0 The dog has to be helped or the dog causes the tangling of the team

#### Section d: halting the dog

##### Points

- 4 - 5 The dog halts on command nearly without the brake
- 2 - 3 The dog halts on command and the driver uses the brake
- 1 The dog does not halt without heavy use of the brake
- 0 The dog does not pay attention to the command at all

#### Section e: encountering a moving motor vehicle

- The dog should not be too frightened of or too interested in the moving motor vehicle

##### Points

- 4 - 5 The passing occurs without confusion
- 2 - 3 The dog is too frightened or too interested in the moving motor vehicle
- 1 The dog is difficult to master or it is willing to follow the vehicle
- 0 The dog causes the tangling of the team

#### Section f: encountering an another team

##### Points

- 4 - 5 The passing occurs without confusion
- 2 - 3 The dog is too frightened of or too interested in the other team
- 1 The dog is disturbingly interested in the other team
- 0 The dog tries to attack the other team or causes the team or teams to tangle

#### Section g: general control of the dog

- The dog may show normal interest in other animals, other dogs or other disturbances, but it must be in the control of the driver

##### Points

- 4 - 5 The dog is not prone to disturbances
- 2 - 3 The dog is prone to disturbances
- 1 The driver has to command the dog to keep it disciplined or the driver has to stop the team
- 0 The dog is not in the control of the driver

#### Section h: working motivation

- The dog must show working motivation throughout the test.

##### Points

- 9 - 10 The dog is working throughout the test
- 6 - 8 The dog works incoherently, but obeys the driver
- 1 - 5 The dog needs continuous encouragements and works incoherently, but obeys the driver
- 0 The dog does not work enough

## **2. The obedience section**

The driver commands the team to stay and remains him/herself near the team.  
The dog participating in the test must stay on place for five (5) minutes.

Points

- 4 - 5 The dog participating stays on place
- 2 - 3 The dog stays on place but shows signs of clear impatience
- 1 The driver has to command the dog to stay on place
- 0 The participating dogs causes confusion in the team

### **Evaluation of conduct and co-operation**

Conduct and co-operation is evaluated throughout the test.

Points

- 9 - 10 The dog is outgoing and works with team mates without confusion
- 6 - 8 The dog is calm, but works with the team with some reservation
- 1 - 5 The dog is partly unwilling to work or bullies and causes confusion in the team
- 0 The dog shows aggression or causes confusion in the team

The head judge makes the final evaluation about the whole test in writing and can mention the merits and faults of the evaluated dog.

The head judge has the possibility to add 1-5 points to the final evaluation with argumentation.

# Finnish Championship rules

Finnish Kennel Club, Suomen Kennelliitto - Finska Kennelklubben ry  
Valid from 1st of January, 2003

## Requirements for all breeds

### Finnish Champion (FIN MVA)

At least three certificates (CC) from Finland under three different judges  
At least one of the certificates must be earned at over 24 months of age.  
Additionally the possible breed specific test/trial requirements (FKC Council 24.11.02).

### Finnish Working Champion (FIN KVA)

At least quality evaluation "good" from a dog show after the dog has reached 15 months of age.  
Additionally the breed specific test/trial requirements.

## Breed specific trial merit requirements for the Siberian Husky for Finnish Championship awards

### FIN MVA (Finnish Champion)

(Accepted by Finnish Kennel Club [FKC] Council on 27th of November, 2005)

Excellent merit from racing test for sled dogs (REK1),

or

1 x excellent merit from working test for sled dogs (REKÄ1) and 1 x accepted merit from racing test for sled dogs (REK1, REK2 or REK3),

or

2 x good merit from working test for sled dogs (REKÄ2) and 1 x accepted merit from racing test for sled dogs (REK1, REK2 or REK3).

### FIN KVA (Finnish Working Champion)

1 x excellent merit from working test for sled dogs ja 1 x excellent merit from racing test for sled dogs as a leader.

## International Champion

### **A. Breeds that do not need a working trial according to FCI\***

To achieve an International Championship award the dog must have four CACIBs from three different countries, under three different judges independent of the amount of dogs entered.

The timeline between the first and last CACIB has to be at least one year and one day, e.g. from 1.1.2001 to 1.1.2002.

(\* the Siberian Husky belongs to this group)

CACIB means an international show certificate. It is awarded in international dog shows to a registered dog in whose pedigree there are at least three generations of dogs of the same breed or variations of the same breed. CACIB cannot be awarded to a dog under 15 months, or a breed not accepted by the FCI.