

French Cup

Rules

Disclaimer: in case of any discrepancies, the French version of the rules is the reference version.

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The French Cup aims to bring together French and foreign competitors to compete on technical courses to reveal the best handler and dog partnership in each category. It is open to all dogs, with or without a pedigree.

The competition includes three qualifier tests and a final test, held over the two days of a single weekend.

1. Specific Rules

The competition is governed by the Agility rules of the SCC (Société Centrale Canine, the French Kennel Club), extended by the specific rules detailed in this section.

1.1. Classes

There is only one class: senior, which means you must be 14 years or over to compete.

1.2. Categories

There are 4 categories in the agility rules of the SCC:

- Category A: dogs under 37cm
- Category B: dogs from 37cm up to 47cm
- Category C: dogs 47cm and more
- Category D: molosser breeds and other heavy dogs (see list in appendix)

1.3. Determination of the SCT

In each test, the SCT (standard course time) is determined from the course time of the best classed dog in the category + 15%. The best classed dog is the fastest dog among those having the fewest course faults.

1.4. Result posting

- a) The results must be posted at the end of each test.
- b) Any claims must be brought within 30 minutes of the posting.
- c) The complete results are posted after the prize-giving ceremony so that all competitors are informed.

1.5. Disputes

Disputes are settled by the President of the CNEAC and by the head of Agility Working Group (or his representative).

2. Organization

2.1. Participation conditions

- a) The competition is open to handlers who are members of their country's Kennel Club, affiliated to the FCI or recognized by the FCI.
- b) Participants must possess an agility record book or a license issued by their country's Kennel Club.
- c) For French participants, the dog must be able to justify a speed, on "jumping plus" tests, which is:
 - greater than 4.3 m/s in categories A and B
 - greater than 4.5 m/s in category C
 - greater than 3.5 m/s in category D

This minimum speed must be certified by 3 (minimum) to 5 (maximum) "Excellent" qualifiers (5.99 maximum faults) obtained with 3 different judges on "jumping plus" tests or equivalent (see below) in the 12 months before the registration deadline. Join 3, 4 or 5 qualifiers displaying the highest speeds.

The following are equivalent to "jumping plus" tests:

- jumping 3 tests made abroad
- jumping tests of French FCI selective events
- jumping tests of European Open
- jumping tests the final of the 3rd degree French Championship
- jumping events of the final of the Grand Prix of France
- jumping events of the 3rd degree Regional Championships
- jumping events Grand Prix of France selective events

2.2. Maximum number of participants

- The number of participants is limited to 320 dogs.
- Distribution between France and Foreign countries:
 - 160 handlers (hereafter “French”) who are members of a club is affiliated to a territorial association of the SCC (Société Centrale Canine)
 - 160 handlers (hereafter “Foreign”) who are members of a club affiliated to the Kennel Club of a country other than France

Additional places can be attributed to the French (respectively Foreign) handlers if the quota reserved for the foreign (respectively French) handlers is not reached.
- Distribution between categories (French handlers only):
 - 30 dogs in category A
 - 30 dogs in category B
 - 90 dogs in category C
 - 10 dogs in category D
- If the French quota is increased (see §2.2.b), the distribution between the categories is adjusted in proportion to the total number of places available.
- If the number of applications in a category (French handlers only) is less than the nominal quota, the quotas of the other categories are increased in proportion to the non-satisfied demand.

Example: there are only 100 foreign applications, representing 60 empty places. The quota of places for France becomes $160 + 60 = 220$ places. Quotas between categories are adjusted proportionately: $30/160 \times 220 = 41$ A, $220 \times 30/160 = 41$ B, $220 \times 90/160 = 124$ C and $220 \times 10/160 = 14$ in D.

There are 260 French applications, 60 A, 22 B, 176 C and 4 D, corresponding to an excess demand of $(60-41) = 19$ places in A and $(176-124) = 52$ places in C. On the contrary, the quotas for B and D are not fulfilled, releasing $19 + 10 = 29$ additional places.

The 29 empty places in B and D seats are distributed as follows: $29 \times 19 / (19 + 52) = 7.76 = 8$ additional places in A; $29 \times 52 / (19 + 52) = 21.24 = 21$ additional places in C.

2.3. Registration

- A single handler can compete with several dogs.
- The entry form for every dog includes:
 - The **entry form**, completed in capitals, including in particular:
 - a copy of the data page of the agility record book or licence
 - the (French) category in which the dog will run (see §1.2);
 - for French participants, the median of the speeds exhibited on the justifications detailed in §2.1.c
 - for foreign participants, the number of the bank account to which the registration fees can be refunded in case of refusal of an application because of a demand exceeding the quota (see §2.2.b) (unless the fees were paid by credit card)
 - For French participants, a readable copy of the **justifications** detailed in §2.1.c.
 - A readable copy of the dog's **anti-rabies certificate** for all dogs coming from abroad, or for dogs categorized in France or coming from a department concerned by a ministerial or prefectural decree.
 - For French participants, an unstapled **check** corresponding to the registration fee (the amount and

order of the check will be given on the entry form) (unless the fees are paid by credit card).

- For foreign participants, the **receipt** of the bank transfer corresponding to the payment of registration fees (the amount and the account ID will be specified on the entry form) (unless the fees were paid by credit card).
- c) The entry form and the payment of registration fees must reach the organizer before the deadline specified on the form.
- d) The requests of entry will be taken into account:
- For French participants, according to the following rule
 - 1) by decreasing order of the number of supplied justifications
 - 2) for a given number of justifications, by decreasing order of the median of the speed displayed on these justifications
 - For foreign participants, according to the order of arrival of the applications.

In case of refusal of an entry application, the competitor will be informed at least 15 days before the competition and his entry fee refunded.

2.4. Starting numbers

Starting numbers are given to the competitors in the morning of the first day of the competition, before the runs, on presentation of their license or record book.

3. Competition procedure

3.1. Qualifiers

- a) The selection for the final run takes place on three qualifier tests: 1 Jumping and 2 Agility
- b) For each qualifier test, a random running order of the competitors is established in each category.
- c) A ranking is established for each qualifier and for the accumulation of all three qualifiers (disqualifications, penalties, time).

3.2. Selection for the final

- a) The dogs with the highest rankings in each qualifier and in the accumulation of all three qualifiers are selected for the final in the following limits (for each qualifier and for the accumulation) :
 - the first 5 dogs in category A
 - the first 5 dogs in category B
 - the first 15 dogs in category C
 - the first dog in category D
- b) If, in a given qualifier, a dog satisfies the selection criterion whereas it has already been selected during an earlier qualifier, the next available dog will qualify up to the limit of the indicated number.
- c) If, in the accumulation of all three qualifiers, satisfies the selection criterion whereas it has already been selected during a qualifier, the next available dog will qualify up to the limit of the indicated number.
- d) At most 104 dogs are selected for the final test, distributed as follows:

Qualification	A	B	C	D	Total
Qualifier 1	5	5	15	1	26
Qualifier 2	5	5	15	1	26
Qualifier 3	5	5	15	1	26
Accumulation	5	5	15	1	26
Total	20	20	60	4	104

3.3. Final

- a) The final is an Agility test.
- b) A running order of the competitors in every category is established according reverse order of the ranking in the jumping qualifier.

3.4. Rewards

- a) The winner in each category of the final will get the title of "Winner of the French Cup"
- b) The best classified French dog in each category A, B and C of the final will be automatically qualified for the European Open of the following year (where they will have to compete in the FCI category corresponding to their size).

Appendix: breeds of the category D (extracted from the SCC agility rules of 2012)

Akita Inu, Berger des Abruzes, Berger de Russie Méridionale, Berger d'Anatolie, Berger du Caucase, Berger de Podhale, Bouvier Bernois (Grand), Bouvier Suisse (Grand), Bull Mastiff, Bull Terrier, Charplanina, Cao Da Serra Estrella, Cane Corso, Chien Loup de Saarloos, Dogue Allemand, Dogue de Bordeaux, Dogue du Tibet, Dogue Argentin, Eurasier, Griffon Nivernais, Hovawart, Komodor, Korthal, Kuvasz, Landser, Leonberg, Lévrier Afghan, Lévrier Russe (Barzoï), Lévrier Ecossais (Deerhoundà, Lévrier Irlandais (Wolfhound), Malamute, Mastiff, Matin de Naples, Montagne de Pyrénées, Montagne Portugais, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Rottweiler, Saint-Bernard, Sharpei, Terre Neuve, Terrier Noir de Russie, Whippet.

This category also includes mixbreed dogs weighing more than 40 kg and achieving a speed of less than 2.40 m/s.