

# FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

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## FCI Regulations for the CACIT Vollgebrauchsprüfung (VGP) for Dachshunds

### Preface

FCI Standard No. 148 provides the following definition of the Dachshund (also called Dackel or Teckel in German-speaking countries): “From the « Bracken », dogs were constantly bred which were specially suitable for hunting below ground. From these short legged dogs, the Dachshund evolved and was recognised as one of the most versatile and useful breeds of hunting dogs. He also has excellent achievements above ground, hunting while giving tongue, searching and tracking wounded game.”

The purpose of this test with CACIT that counts for the title of FCI Working Champion (CIT) is to demonstrate a dachshund’s wide scope of use in hunting. During the 2-day test, the dachshund needs to present its behaviour, character and temperament as best as possible. Dachshunds are friendly by nature, neither nervous nor aggressive, with even temperament. They are passionate, persevering and fast hunting dogs with an excellent nose.

All member countries should be in a position to conduct the VGP according to this PO, while paying due attention to the high importance attached to animal protection and all relevant legislation.

### Announcement

FCI members and contract partners are allowed to conduct VGP. A country’s national organization wanting to conduct a VGP under its own responsibility may delegate responsibility to a member club. It must inform the President of the Earth Dogs Commission of its intention before the end of February of the calendar year. The following points need to be addressed in the application:

- Place and date of the test
- Address of the test director
- Latest date for entry
- Entry fee in the country’s currency (entry fees are non-refundable)

Following verification of requirements, the President of the FCI Earth Dogs Commission has to communicate, by 31<sup>st</sup> March at the latest, his approval for the VGP to be conducted.

The organising club (e.g. the Deutscher Teckel Club – DTK/German Dachshund Club) is responsible for advertising the test in the respective publications of the members of the FCI Earth Dogs Commission. The VGP will not be published via the FCI office. The application for approval to award the CACIT that counts for the International Working Champion Title (CIT) is to be obtained by the organising club via the relevant national body (e.g. VDH).

At least six entries are required for a CACIT test to be conducted. Interested dog handlers can direct their entries directly to the director of the test. Entries do not have to be made via a member club.

## **Test regulations (Prüfungsordnung/PO)**

This PO is based on the regulations (PO) of the Deutscher Teckel Club (DTK, Germany) in force. Any deviations from the DTK regulations are noted in this set of regulations. Upon entering the VGP, participants agree to accept this PO. No liability is accepted by the organizers for dogs or persons involved in accidents or for any other mishaps caused by test incidents. By their participation, competitors agree with this provision.

## **Test content**

The participating teams are judged in the following categories on two consecutive days:

- Blood tracking (must be the first test)
- Obedience
- Flushing
- Work underground
- Work in water

## **Entry requirements**

This test is open exclusively to Dachshunds. They must have an FCI pedigree and be registered in the studbook of the national organization of the country in which the owner lives.

Copies of the following documentation must be sent to the test director on entering a VGP.

- Pedigree (front and back side)
- a form certifying attesting that the dog has obtained at least a qualification "very good" at an international CACIB show under the aegis of the FCI in the working, intermediate or open class.
- a form certifying attesting that the dog has passed a Spurlaut Test on hare with at least a second prize.
- a form certifying attesting that the dog has passed a Den Test or Natural Den Test on fox or badger.
- a form certifying attesting that the dog has passed a blood-tracking test.
- Proof that the entry fee has been paid to the organizer's account.

Bitches in heat or dogs suspected of being ill cannot take part in the trial.

## **Organisation of the trial on the spot**

The dachshund club of the country organising the VGP is responsible for all administrative and technical aspects of the VGP organisation. The financial risk is borne by the dachshund club conducting the VGP. For blood-tracking without judges all teams are to be started at the hit site of their respective line (drawn by

lot) at the same time by a judge or a person knowing the terrain well. This leads to considerable time being saved in the whole test procedure.

## Judges

A panel of judges, consisting of three judges, is allowed to supervise a maximum of six teams. Trainee judges are allowed to take part in the VGP as part of their training but cannot replace a regular judge. They must bear their own costs. For each panel of judges, an internationally licensed foreign teckel judge must be invited. In addition, one "guest judge" from another hunting dog club may be included, though he cannot be appointed as the presiding judge. Judges and trainee judges are required to carry with them the current version of the DTK regulations (PO), together with the FCI VGP regulations, and, if necessary, an accurate translation of both regulations (PO) in their native language.

The dachshund club of the host country is responsible for inviting the judges. The club conducting the test is also responsible for bearing their expenses. Expenses are paid in accordance with current FCI rules as set forth in the "FCI Regulations for FCI Dog Shows, Rights of the Judges, Judges' rights when travelling to FCI International Shows outside the country of residence".

## VGP disciplines

On the evening before the test, the competitors are divided into groups, with each team being allocated a starting number by the test director.

a) Blood-tracking test without judges on a 20-hour line

The requirements correspond to the DTK regulations (PO), Chapter 11 with the following variations:

- The lines shall be at least 600 metres long
- A maximum of ¼ litre of blood shall be used
- two, as far as possible right-angled turns,
- two wound beds,
- four marking points
- Maximum time limit: 60 minutes

b) Obedience

- The requirements correspond to the DTK regulations (PO), Chapter 5, Paragraph C
- The obedience tests must absolutely be conducted after the blood tracking test.
- Each individual test must be passed.

c) Flushing test

- The requirements correspond to the DTK regulations (PO), Chapter 14, Paragraph 3.

d) Suitability for earthwork

### **General remarks**

- The suitability test is conducted in an artificial den.
- The layout of the artificial den complies with the respective national circumstances.
- Appropriate provisions are to be foreseen to prevent direct contact between the dachshund and the fox.
- Only healthy foxes with adult dentition and inoculated against rabies can be used.
- Lots will be drawn on which quarry is allocated to which team.
- The quarry is to be changed after the third performance work at the latest.

### **Layout of the artificial den**

- The den needs not be a through tunnel, i.e. O-shaped. It can also be dead-ended (U-shaped).
- The den must be equipped with an incline and decline (a bypass tunnel with a chimney are not part of the test)
- The end chamber may be a turntable chamber with a bolting device for the bolt cage

### **Assessment**

- Empty-den-test
- Prior to the empty-den-test, the fox is to be sent through the den via the incline and decline and removed at the end chamber.
- During the test for the dog, no quarry may be in the den.
- Once the fox has been removed, each dog, in the order of the starting numbers, is subjected to the empty-den-test.
- Dogs continually barking at one place in the den are disqualified from further assessment. Short barks, even repeated barks, attributable to caused by passion or a place where it is difficult for the dog to get through, are not regarded as *baulaut* (voicing in the absence of quarry). Dogs not taking to the den, but which subsequently pass the test, are deemed to have proved that they are not *baulaut*.

### **Assessment with quarry**

- After all dogs have successfully accomplished the empty-den-test, the fox is to be placed in the end or turntable chamber and to be separated by bars from coming into contact with the dog.
- The dog to be assessed is leashed at the entrance.
- The handler may give his dog encouragement until it has reached the first chamber.
- The handler must remain positioned at the entrance tunnel during the whole time the dog is at work. He may only leave this position when told to by a judge.
- The entrance is to be kept open (as in real-life), to let the dog leave the den at any time.
- The dog should make its way without further ado through the tunnels, via the incline and decline, and find the fox without any help.
- Once the dog has found the fox, he is to be given adequate time for marking, baying, or pressuring the fox (turntable chamber).
- The dog now needs to prove with perseverance and passion that he is able to pin the fox in the end chamber. He must not work further than 50 cm away from the quarry (separated by bars).
- If the den is equipped with a turntable chamber with a bolt cage, the dog can press against the turntable, turning it till it locks. This pressuring of the fox should signal his readiness to bolt the fox out of the den. After half of the working time has gone past, the bolt cage's release mechanism is to be activated, giving the dog the opportunity to bolt the fox.

### **Time limits**

- Empty-den-test: 5 minutes
- Finding the quarry in the end or turntable chamber: 5 minutes

When using an end chamber without an opportunity for bolting:

- Lying in front of the end chamber and baying: 5 minutes

When using a turntable chamber with an opportunity for bolting:

- Lying in front of the turntable chamber and baying: 5 minutes
- Time for bolting the quarry: 5 minutes

### **Assessment criteria**

- If the dog does not find the fox in the end chamber within 5 minutes, it is disqualified from the VGP.
- Perseverance is expressed by the dog continuously barking in the end or the turntable chamber. Repeated breaking off of the work with the quarry leads to points being deducted.
- Passion is expressed in the way the dog enters the tunnel, a minimal amount of encouragement by the handler, the way the dog copes with the incline and decline, and the ferocity shown when pressuring the quarry at the bars/turning divider.
- In order to obtain a “very good” rating in voicing, the dog must bark continuously when confronting the quarry. If the dog breaks off work in front of the bars, maybe in order to find an alternate way to get at the quarry, he must stop barking. Doing so will not lead to points being deducted.
- If the fox leaves the turntable chamber, the test ends. This does not necessarily mean that the dog has bolted the fox and has passed the test. Foxes often leave the chamber of their own accord, without being worried by the dog! The whole work needs to be taken into account.
- If the dog breaks off the work and leaves the den without re-entering within the set time-limit, the VGP is deemed to have been failed.

e) Water test

- The requirements correspond to the DTK regulations, Chapter 2.

## **VGP Evaluation**

There is no prize allocation. The maximum achievable number of points is 280.

	Score	Multiplier	Points
Blood tracking test without judges (VwP = a marking point, points are allocated for each one recovered)	4 VwP	25	100

### **Obedience:**

Heeling	leashed or	4	1	(4)
	unleashed	4	2	8
Down/stay and gunfire	leashed or	4	1	(4)
	unleashed	4	2	8
Behaviour in standing position	leashed or	4	1	(4)
	unleashed	4	2	8

To get a CACIT, the dog must achieve at least a score of 3 in all obedience tests. Total points in these disciplines must amount to at least 11.

**Flushing:**

Behaviour while flushing	4	8	32
Perseverance while searching	4	6	24

**Suitability for earthwork:**

Perseverance	4	8	32
Passion	4	5	20
Voicing	4	4	16

**Water test:**

Water propensity	4	5	20
Retrieving	4	3	12

<u>Maximum amount of points</u>			<u>280</u>
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To get a CACIT that counts for the title of C.I.T. a minimum of 267 points needs to be achieved.

Multiple CACIT award:

CACITs can be awarded to all dachshunds achieving the minimum 267 points.

In order to pass the VGP, the following score or points are required:

	Score	Multiplier	Points
Blood tracking test without judges (VwP = a marking point, points are allocated for each one recovered)	2 VwP	25	50

**Obedience:**

Heeling	leashed or	1	1
	unleashed	1	2
Down/stay and gunfire	leashed or	1	1
	unleashed	1	2
Behaviour in standing position	leashed or	1	1
	unleashed	1	2

Total points in these tests must amount to at least 6.			6
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**Flushing:**

Behaviour while flushing	2	8	16
Perseverance while searching	2	6	12

**Suitability for earthwork :**

Perseverance	2	8	16
Passion	2	5	10
Voicing	2	4	8

**Water test:**

Water propensity	2	5	10
Retrieving	2	3	6

Minimum amount of points to pass the test 134

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**VGP winner**

Should there be more than one dog having the top number of points, the deciding factor is the quality of work when blood tracking (criteria: the most marking points in the shortest period of time).

**Complaints**

Judges' decisions are final and definitive. Complaints against formal errors and/or misleading statements must be made to the test director before the end of the test. A sum of money equivalent to three times the entry fee is to be paid immediately as a deposit. Should the complaint turn out to be without ground, the deposit is forfeited and made over to the event organisers.

A special committee made up of the test director and the presiding judges of the groups of judges deals with all complaints. The decision of this committee is final.

**Date of coming into effect**

These regulations were approved by the FCI Earth Dogs Commission at its meeting on 8 February 2009 in Dübendorf, CH, and come into effect on 1 January 2010.

**The German text is the original version.**

**The FCI General Committee approved these regulations at its 2009 meeting in Vienna, July 2009.**