

Dear FCI Full Members

As indicated during our discussions in Madrid, on the occasion of the FCI General Assembly (June 2022), an FCI Working Group, made up of FCI lawyers, the VDH lawyer, P. Friedrich and J. Bartscherer (VDH reps), T. Jakkel and Y. De Clercq (FCI reps), C. Stefanescu (RO), H. Halmarsdottir (IS), V. Klucniece (LV), C. Grosso (IT) and A. Rogger (CH), met in Köln (DE) in the course of August to discuss about the **rewording of the Art.17 (former Art. 20) of the FCI Internal Rules (formerly Standing Orders)**. The clear and final objective to reach was to reword said article **in order to align it to the EU anti-trust law**.

We kindly ask you to find hereafter and ATTACHED the **amendments (Art. 17)** recommended by the FCI Working Group together with some **explanatory notes** also recommended by the Working Group.

In a nutshell, **the main points of this reworded article** are:

- The obligation for all FCI Members and Contract Partners to have an “FCI” Studbook and an “FCI” Appendix (to the studbook).
- The obligation for all FCI Members and Contract Partners to register, in that “FCI” Studbook and “FCI” Appendix the following dogs:

FCI Studbook	<p>Dogs <u>from breeds recognised on a DEFINITIVE basis by the FCI</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ with a COMPLETE PEDIGREE (3 generations fully identified and registered with FCI recognised studbooks and/or appendices) 	The <u>pedigree</u> will bear the FCI logo
FCI Appendix	<p>Dogs <u>from breeds recognised on a PROVISIONAL basis by the FCI</u></p>	The <u>registration certificate</u> will bear the FCI logo
FCI Appendix	<p>Dogs from <u>breeds recognised NATIONALLY only</u>.</p>	<p>The <u>registration certificate</u> can bear the FCI logo under certain conditions (i.e. must carry the remark "Breed not recognised by the FCI" in accordance with Art.17.1):</p> <p><i>"The pedigrees and registration certificates issued to the dogs of breeds not recognised by the FCI cannot bear the FCI logo or must carry the remark "breed not recognised by the FCI".</i></p>
FCI Appendix	<p>Dogs with an INCOMPLETE PEDIGREE (i.e. a pedigree without all three (3) generations fully identified and registered with FCI-recognised studbooks and/or appendices)</p>	The <u>registration certificate</u> will bear the FCI logo
FCI Appendix	<p>Dogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>without any pedigree</u> or 	The <u>registration certificate</u> will bear the FCI logo

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>with a pedigree issued by an organisation which is not an FCI Member/Contract Partner/Cooperating Partner</u> 	
FCI Appendix	Dogs <u>not bred according to the FCI regulations</u>	The <u>registration certificate</u> will bear the FCI logo

The requirements related to the management of the “FCI Studbook and Appendix” are entirely under FCI jurisdiction. These requirements are not changed/affected by the proposed amendments. Hence, no additional dogs should or should not be registered in FCI studbooks and FCI Appendices due to the amendments.

- The possibility offered to all FCI Member and Contract Partners to have their own NCO Studbook to register dogs according to the requirements solely set by the NCO or the national law/regulations: **the documents issued cannot bear the FCI logo or any other reference to the FCI.**

The requirements related to the management of the “NCO Studbook” are entirely under NCO jurisdiction, entirely based on the NCO regulations and the national laws of the country concerned.

We remind all our Members and Contract Partners that according to the Internal Rules, Art.17.5, “*any Member or Contract Partner can refuse to (re)-register in the FCI Studbook/Appendix, or alternatively can (re-)register with a “limited registration: not to be used for breeding”, a dog suffering from hereditary defects or featuring defects which go against the Article 3 of the Statutes or a dog which does not comply with the rules of selection defined by the Member or Contract Partner in question. In addition, the Members and Contract Partners are not obliged to automatically register or re-register an imported dog in the FCI Studbook/Appendix if they consider the (export) pedigree/registration certificate to have been prepared incorrectly*”.

The Working Group is well aware that many different and peculiar cases can happen. Therefore, any question specifically related to the above changes can be directed to declercq.y@fci.be and/or thomas.knapowski@osborneclarke.com It will be answered within a short timeframe.

This communication is sent to you for information, only. The complete and definitive Statutes and Internal Rules will be sent later, for approval.

We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Best regards

Y.De Clercq
FCI Executive Director

Article 17 - Studbooks

17.1 Every Member and Contract Partner **as well as every breed club possibly commissioned by them**, must keep a studbook for all the breeds recognised on a definitive basis by the FCI. **In order to be fully recognised by the FCI and its Members and Contract Partners, dogs must be bred according to the FCI regulations and entered in that studbook. Only such dogs are eligible to be issued FCI recognised pedigrees (i.e. pedigrees bearing the FCI logo).**

For those dogs, which are not yet fully recognised by the FCI, the Members and Contract Partners also have to keep an Appendix to the Studbook for the registration of

- a) **dogs belonging to the breeds recognised on a provisional basis;**
- b) **dogs belonging to the breeds recognised nationally only;**
- c) **dogs with an incomplete pedigree (a pedigree without all three (3) generations fully identified and registered with FCI-recognised studbooks and/or Appendices);**
- d) **dogs without any pedigree;**
- e) **dogs not bred according to the FCI regulations.**

For a dog to be eligible for entry in a studbook (**and be issued a pedigree recognised by the FCI and the Members/Contract Partners**) or Appendix, (**and be issued a registration certificate recognised by the FCI and Members and Contract Partners**), it must be registered by the Member/Contract Partner of the country where its owner has his Legal residence.

A litter must be registered with the Member or Contract Partner of the country where its breeder has his Legal Residence and the litter was born. Exceptions can be made by mutual agreement between the Members or Contract Partners involved.

The pedigrees **and registration certificates** issued to the dogs of breeds not recognised by the FCI cannot bear the FCI logo or must carry the remark "breed not recognised by the FCI".

17.2 Members and Contract Partners must exclusively and reciprocally recognize each other's studbooks, including the Appendices as long as the breed(s) concerned are FCI recognised. An updated list of the initials of the various studbooks and Appendices will be published by the FCI Head Office.

17.3 On the original pedigrees, the studbook registration number should follow the initials of the studbook in which the dog is registered (e.g.: SHSB/LOS: n° 255 333); in addition, the registration numbers and the initials should be provided for at least three (3) generations. The type of coat, the colour and the size variety should be added, according to the terminology of the breed standards, on the pedigrees, including the export pedigrees. The official titles of the FCI, i.e. international, world and section titles must appear on the pedigrees and the national titles awarded by Members and Contract Partners can be recorded.

- 17.4 **Notwithstanding article 17.2. of the present Internal Rules, and with reference to article 17.1. of the present Internal Rules, a dog belonging to breeds already recognised by the FCI holding no pedigree, or a pedigree issued by an organisation which is not an FCI Member/Contract Partner/Cooperating Partner can be registered in the Appendix to the Studbook by the FCI Members and Contract Partners, as well as by the breed clubs possibly commissioned by them. In this case, prior to the registration, the dog has to be assessed by an FCI Judge approved for the breed in question. The assessment is also required for dogs under article 17.1. c), d) and e) of the present Internal Rules.**
The offspring of dogs entered in the Appendix can only be recognised by the FCI and its Members/Contract Partners once three (3) consecutive generations (parents/grandparents/great grandparents) are fully identified and registered with FCI-recognised studbooks and/or Appendices. It is only then entitled to be issued FCI recognised pedigrees.
Unless mandatory national laws require a different treatment, dogs (and/or their ancestors included in their pedigrees), which are not bred according to the FCI regulations and therefore are not yet fully recognised by the FCI, can also be entered in the studbook. However, these dogs have to be clearly identifiable, so that they cannot be confused with FCI recognised dogs (e.g., by clearly indicating in the pedigree and in the studbook, which dogs (and their ancestors included in their pedigrees) are recognised/are not recognised by the FCI and its Members/Contract Partners). These dogs cannot obtain pedigrees bearing the official FCI logo.
- 17.5 Any Member or Contract Partner can refuse to (re-)register in its studbook/**Appendix**, or alternatively can (re-)register with a “limited registration: not to be used for breeding”, a dog suffering from hereditary defects or featuring defects which go against the Article 3 of the Statutes or a dog which does not comply with the rules of selection defined by the Member or Contract Partner in question.
In addition, the Members and Contract Partners are not obliged to automatically register or re-register an imported dog in their studbook/**Appendix** if they consider the (export) pedigree/**registration certificate** to have been prepared incorrectly.
In that case, the Members and Contract Partners should clearly explain to the Member/**Contract Partner** which issued the certified export pedigree/**export registration certificate** the reason for their denying.
- 17.6 **The breed clubs affiliated to Members and Contract Partners and keeping their own studbooks/Appendix to the studbooks on behalf of their national canine organisation must clearly indicate on the pedigrees/registration certificates that they are members of a national canine organisation.**
- 17.7 Pedigrees have official validity for the Members and Contract Partners and must bear the official FCI logo **according to the above points 17.1. and 17.4.**
- 17.8 On issuing a pedigree, obvious, definitive and identifiable deviations from coat colours specified by the Breed Standard are to be clearly stated with the indication “non-compliant with FCI Breed Standard – Not fit for breeding”. Each dog of a litter has to be provided with only one (1) FCI recognised pedigree and only one (1) FCI recognised export pedigree, which should include the name of the owner of the dog; if the owner's name is not written on the pedigree, a separate owner's certificate must be issued by the National Canine Organization. In addition, there must be one responsible person for the ownership of a dog. This person has to be the first in the list of owners.

- 17.9 When a dog is sold abroad, the National Canine Organization must issue a certified export pedigree written in one (1) of the four (4) FCI Official Working Languages. It is however, forbidden, to issue an export pedigree to a dog which is not identified by tattoo or microchip. A dog registered in the appendix of a studbook has to be issued an export registration certificate for the purpose of being re-registered in another appendix to a studbook. For each dog registered with a Member or Contract Partner and then exported, the National Canine Organization that last registered the dog shall certify the transfer of ownership to the new owner by stating his name and address on the export pedigree or by issuing a separate owners' certificate.
- 17.10 The National Canine Organizations and their breed clubs may not make any alteration or change any information about the dog already registered in a recognised studbook. However, if a dog bears more than one (1) kennel name, only the breeder's FCI kennel name must remain, unless a written agreement between the involved parties is presented upon registration of the litter.
The original registration number and the initials of the studbook must appear on all documents containing cynological information (working tests programmes, show catalogues, pedigrees, registration forms) beside the new studbook registration number.
- 17.11 When a dog is sold abroad, the new studbook registration number and initials of the new studbook must be recorded on the original export pedigree. This information is to be certified by the stamp and signature of the National Canine Organization which keeps the studbook. It is forbidden to issue a new pedigree to an imported dog.
- 17.12 The Members and the Contract Partners must provide specimens of the pedigrees valid in their own country to the Head Office. All the Members and Contract Partners must be informed immediately by the Head Office of any alteration to a pedigree.
- 17.13 The pedigrees issued by a Member or a Contract Partner must be accepted by all the Members and Contract Partners as "documents proving that the pups are born of pedigree parents from the same breed".
Furthermore, in case of a crossbreeding programme approved by a Member within the FCI regulations, the pedigrees issued by a Member or a Contract Partner must also be accepted by all Members and Contract Partners.
The Members and Contract Partners are, however, allowed to make use of article 17.5. of the Internal Rules. These pedigrees cannot be rescinded by a Member or a Contract Partner under any circumstances.
- 17.14 The Members and Contract Partners are not obliged to register in their studbooks and to issue pedigrees to pups produced as a result of mating of parents which do not meet the FCI Breed Standards.