

1. Anti-doping tests may be carried out at all national and international events held in the Federal Republic of Germany and governed by VDH without specific mention of them being made in the announcement of events and the invitation of entries. These regulations find their basis in the Protection of Animals Act of the Federal Republic of Germany (TierSchG) and the pertinent European Union and FCI anti-doping regulations.

Any dog brought to the start of an event with official date protection for the purpose of participating in an examination/competition or in a race/coursing event must be free in its tissues, body fluids, and excretory products of all substances listed on the relevant VDH substance groups list on the day or days of the event.

When dogs are receiving veterinary treatment or were until shortly before the relevant event, the dog owner or the person in charge of the dog is required to submit a record of substances administered to the dog. The type, quantity and the point in time/period of time during which the substance(s) were administered must be listed. This statement must be confirmed by the administering veterinarian and supported with the veterinarian's diagnosis. It must be submitted to the VDH office by, at the latest, five calendar days before the first day of competition. This information must be submitted on the form provided for this purpose by VDH. A veterinary certificate must be enclosed. Documents received after this point in time and documentation received in any other form cannot be considered.

VDH uses this documentation to determine, with the support of third-party experts, whether dogs should be permitted to compete. Costs arising in connection with it are borne by the owner or the person in charge of the dog. The owner or person in charge of the dog will not be sanctioned in the event that a substance declared in advance is detected in an anti-doping test.

The VDH substance group list is structured as follows:

- substances affecting the central or peripheral nervous system
- substances affecting the vegetative nervous system
- substances affecting the gastrointestinal tract
- substances affecting the heart and the circulation
- substances affecting the musculoskeletal system
- substances that lower temperature, relieve pain, are anti-inflammatory
- substances with antibiotic, antifungal, antiviral effects
- substances affecting the clotting of blood
- substances that cause cell damage
- antihistamines
- diuretics
- local anaesthetics
- muscle relaxants
- respiratory stimulants
- sexual hormones
- anabolic substances
- corticosteroids
- endocrine secretions and their synthetic homologues

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Doping is considered to have occurred when a substance – regardless of the quantity detected – belonging to any of the groups listed above is found. For the substance theobromine, a limit of 2,000 ng/ml applies.

2. By the beginning of each year, at the latest, the VDH Board establishes the number and location of the anti-doping controls to be conducted at the events within its remit (and especially at German Championships, World Championship qualifying events and World Championship events held by VDH.)
3. VDH member associations may implement their own anti-doping controls at the events they hold. The costs of such measures are borne by the relevant VDH member associations.
4. In individual cases of well-founded suspicion, anti-doping tests may be ordered and arranged in consultation with the show organizer and the presiding judge or judges. The costs of such tests are borne by the event organizer.
5. In principle, dogs are targeted for anti-doping controls randomly. In addition to random testing, tests may be conducted at any point in cases of well-founded suspicion. Dogs may also be selected for controls on the basis of success after reaching a particular competition result, placing or qualification. Doping controls are implemented and recorded by the anti-doping team. Samples are taken from winners, and additional dogs in the same competition may also be selected for anti-doping testing. As soon as it has been determined that a dog is to be tested, it is immediately brought to the location of the anti-doping team by a neutral official handler. A blood sample from the dog is then drawn by the veterinarian. Third parties may not be involved in the process.

Officials accompany the other participants to a waiting area.

6. The type of sample to be taken will be established by the person (veterinarian) in charge of the anti-doping team. Doping samples normally involve blood collection. In exceptional circumstances, urine samples may be required.

An A and a B sample are drawn. The desirable total minimum blood sample volume is 24 millilitres. Containers with the samples are sealed and must be marked with codes by the anti-doping team. The A sample is dispatched immediately to a laboratory capable of performing anti-doping analyses. Once a dog owner has been notified that a dog has tested positive in an anti-doping test, the owner is entitled to request the analysis of the B sample, at his or her own expense, from the VDH Board through the VDH office within 10 days of having received notification. Such declarations must be made in written form. If the owner of the dog does not make use of this entitlement, he or she shall be deemed to have acknowledged the result from the analysis of the A sample.

Where it is necessary for analytical purposes, VDH is entitled to have the B sample analysed at any point.

7. By submitting an entry to any date-protected competition/examination or race/coursing event held in accordance with FCI, IRO, VDH and/or VDH member association regulations, the dog owner or person in charge of a dog acknowledges and agrees to abide by the conditions as described. In entering a dog for competition, owners and/or those in charge of dogs also declare themselves willing to submit dogs to any anti-doping test ordered and to provide the veterinarian with every possible support.
8. Detection of any substance mentioned above in a dog that has placed in an event leads to the retrospective disqualification of the dog. This disqualification is not linked to the question as to whether the owner and/or the person in charge of the dog or any agent of theirs has acted culpably.

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9. Independently of this, the VDH Board determines further measures proportionate to the severity of the offence from the catalogue of sanctions below.
10. Catalogue of Sanctions

The dog is barred from all events held within the remit of the VDH for a minimum period of six months and a maximum period of three years.

The person in charge of the dog and/or the owner of the dog can be barred from taking part in events with all dogs they own for a minimum period of six months and a maximum period of three years.

The dog owner and/or the person in charge of the dog jointly and severally bear all costs incurred in testing the dog and analysing the sample without culpability being proven.

The VDH Board and the respective competent authorities are notified of measures taken. A request will be made to FCI to adopt the sanction and inform the national member associations. Those affected by VDH measures will be notified accordingly by the VDH office.

The decision of the VDH Board can be contested by filing an appeal with the VDH tribunal within two weeks of receiving the Board's decision. Where the Board has not specifically ordered that the measure be implemented with immediate effect, such an appeal has a suspensory effect.
11. In all other respects, the VDH regulations governing individual dog sports apply.