
Treibball examination regulations VDH



**Verband für das
Deutsche Hundewesen e. V.**

Member of
Fédération Cynologique
Internationale

valid from January 1st, 2025

VDH PO Treibball 2025 (2025-01-21)

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To the extent that the male form of a term is used in this set of rules for reasons of simplicity, the female and diverse forms are of course also included.

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1. Preamble

Treibball is a dog sport based on herding that is suitable for dogs of almost any breed and size. The tasks are tailored to the level of difficulty and pace of each dog and its handler.

Treibball promotes healthy physical and cognitive activity for the dog. The dog is sent forward and sideways to the balls, the maximum distance is 20 meters. On the playing field, the dog works independently, but in constant communication and cooperation with its handler. Working at a distance is a challenge that strengthens bonds and basic obedience. The aim is perfect interaction between handlers and their dogs. In addition, playing with the colorful balls is just a lot of fun!

When training in Treibball, positive, stress-free and non-violent methods should always be used. The dog's disposition, its ability and its willingness to perform, determine the training and its participation in tournaments. The influence of handlers on the performance through medication or non-animal-friendly influences is forbidden.

The dog lover who is aware of his responsibility will only take part in tournaments, examinations and training with healthy and motivated dogs.

2. Scope

These examination regulations apply to all member clubs of the German canine association “VDH Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen e. V.”.

3. General provisions

These regulations come into force on January 1st, 2025 by decision of the VDH board.

All examinations and tournaments are subject to sporting principles. The type of demonstration and its assessment are recorded in this set of rules. The provisions of this set of rules are binding for everyone involved.

The events are public in nature; the location and start of the examination must be announced publicly. At association level, it is permitted to issue additional admission/implementation regulations for qualifications/championships. Within the VDH dogs of all breeds and mixed breeds can participate. In principle, there are no restrictions regarding origin and racial affiliation. Proof of a breeding book entry/appendix register is not required.

The term “event” includes the spatial, temporal and organizational framework in which the Treibball tournament takes place.

Treibball tournaments (hereinafter: “tournament”) may only be evaluated by Treibball judges (hereinafter: “judges”) if a date has been secured for the tournament. According to the VDH expense regulations in the currently valid version, the judge is entitled to reimbursement of costs. The VDH framework regulations for judges in sports in the currently valid version apply to the activities and powers of the judges.

A tournament begins with the registration office opening and ends with the award ceremony. The core component of a tournament is the actual examination, which is carried out in the form of two competition runs (hereinafter: “runs”). The term run refers to the period between the start and end of the time measurement. The evaluation of the team consisting of handler and dog (hereinafter: “team”) in terms of the test begins when entering the examination area (see paragraph 11.1) and ends when leaving the examination area. Unsportsmanlike behavior, discussions with the judge, excessive pressure on the dog or endangerment of the dog can be punished at any time during the event with the termination of the exam and, if necessary, subsequent withdrawal of all points.

For organizational reasons, the organizer may divide a tournament into several parts, each with its own entry and award ceremony. As a rule, this should be communicated to the judge and the participants when the competition is announced. However, this must be communicated to the judge and the participants no later than the day before the tournament.

“Examination day” means the day on which the examination or part of the examination takes place. Any exam days that belong together must be numbered consecutively. No more than 100 runs can be assessed by a judge on one examination day.

The judge’s verdict is final and must be accepted by the dog handler. Any criticism of the judge’s decisions is inadmissible and may result in exclusion from further participation in the tournament or from future Treibball tournaments. Video recordings are not admissible as evidence.

The judge evaluates the examination, monitors the accuracy of the entries in the examination documents and confirms them with his signature or judge’s stamp.

The organizer is entitled to cancel, interrupt or end the event if safety and order cannot be guaranteed. When the event ends or is interrupted, the tournament also ends or pauses.

The judge is entitled to cancel, interrupt or end the tournament if safety and order cannot be guaranteed.

4. Requirements for the organizer

4.1 Playing field

The playing field is usually rectangular, flat and has a size of approx. 15 m x 30 m. The floor of the playing field is usually a short-cut lawn that has been cleaned of clippings and objects.

Deviations from the norm are generally possible. Any deviation from the norm must be reported to the judge by the organizer at least four weeks before the tournament. The judge has the right to demand correction of the deviation or to declare the place unsuitable.

4.2 Goal

The goal is directly connected to the playing field in the middle of a short side of the playing field (goal side). It is 3 meters wide and 3 meters deep.

The goal is open at the back and the fences must reach at least 1 m deep into the goal. Any remaining side and rear boundaries of the goal are marked on the ground.

If the field has a slope, the goal must be on the higher short side.

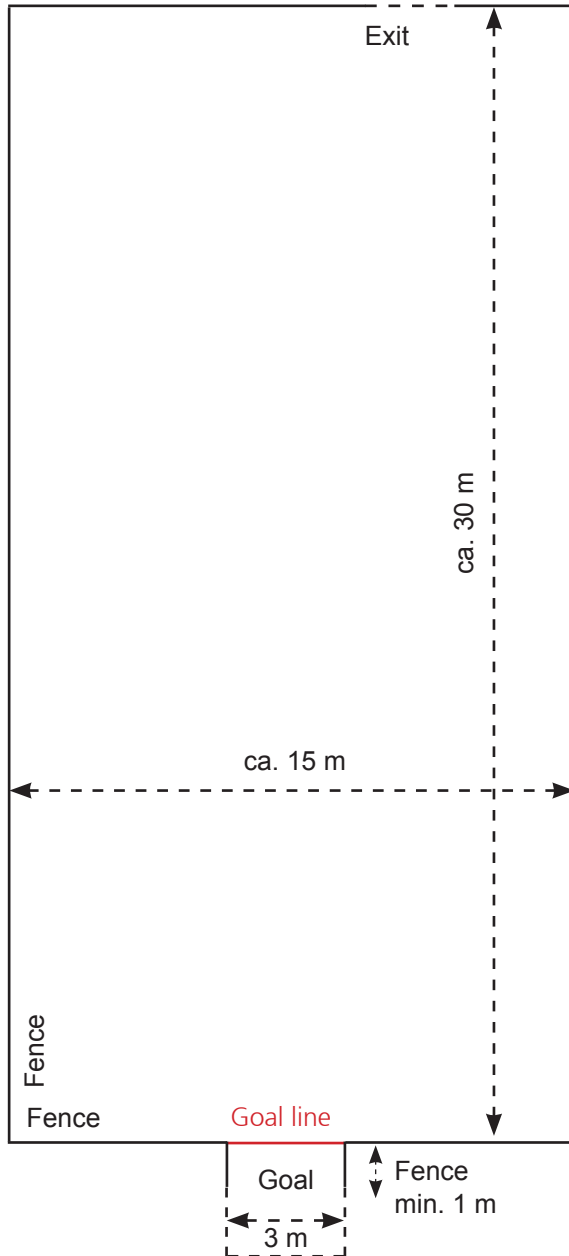
There is no barrier between the playing field and the goal, but rather a marking on the ground (goal line).

4.3 Fences

The playing field and the goal are usually bordered by a fence that is at least 60 cm high (top edge). Deviations are possible with the consent of the judge. The fences must be tightly meshed and well tensioned; no "pockets" may form between the posts. It must be impossible for the balls to pass under the fence.

The fences must be stable and must not pose a danger to the dog if it drives a ball against the fence. This is especially true on the side of the goal and especially for the goal posts.

On the short rear side of the playing field, the fences may be interrupted to form an exit. In this case, the edge of the playing field is marked on the ground.



4.4 Markings and signs

In addition to the markings of the goal and goal area, the maximum distance of each participating distance group and class to the goal (see section 11.3) as well as the positions of the balls on the field can be marked. The distances may be indicated by signs on the right and left of the side fences. Markings and signs must not pose a risk of injury.

4.5 Judge's workplace

There must be a workplace for the judge next to the playing field. If possible, a tent or pavilion with a table should be placed approx. 10 meters from the goal on one of the long sides.

4.6 Access and audience

If possible, there should be a separate entrance and exit to the playing field, as well as a waiting area separated from spectators and other participants for the team that starts next.

Audiences are to be kept at least 2 meters away from the playing field. No spectators are allowed within 5 meters directly behind the goal. The judge may assign a greater distance generally or to individual people or dogs.

4.7 Preparation area

If local conditions permit, the organizer will provide a separate, fenced preparation area. This must not be located directly next to the playing field. There should be at least one small, medium and large ball available in the preparation area.

4.8 Balls

The organizer must provide balls in at least three different sizes. The number depends on the classes offered. The ball sizes should not fall below certain minimum values:

	Minimum size
small	28 cm
medium	42 cm
large	53 cm

The organizer may provide additional ball sizes.

Only smooth, light exercise balls may be used, including Redondo, yoga or children's play balls in the smaller sizes. It is recommended to use burst-proof balls with a load capacity of at least 100 kg. The balls must be firmly inflated and must not be grossly dirty. The plugs must not protrude.

The balls of one size are numbered from one to three/six/eight. Numbers should be waterproof and written on several sides of the ball, large enough so as to be legible from the goal, regardless of the ball's position. Two additional balls of each size are not numbered. They serve as replacement balls.

All balls that are not needed in the run are stored outside the playing field and out of sight of the dogs currently taking the exam. They must also be protected from the blazing sun.

4.9. Own balls

Especially for very small or very large dogs, you may bring your own balls with the organizer's consent. The balls will be handed over to the organizer for the duration of the tournament. They can also be used for other teams.

There is no right to use your own balls; the organizer has the final say. The balls brought along must meet the requirements of these examination regulations; this will be checked by the judge. You only need to bring as many numbered balls as are needed for the team's class.

It is recommended that you bring at least one unnumbered spare ball. You may need to bring suitable rings for your own balls.

4.10 Rings

There must be the right number of suitable rings for each ball size. The outer diameter of the rings must not exceed the ball diameter. The inside diameter must be dimensioned so that the balls still touch the ground. The height of the rings is a maximum of 7 cm, each adjusted to the size of the ball. The rings must not cause injuries if the dog steps on them or touches them while driving. They should be so heavy that they stay on the ground if a dog steps on them.

4.11 Review by the judge

The judge checks whether the materials used meet the requirements of these examination regulations. He can order a correction or cancel the tournament or individual classes or groups, if the requirements for the examination to be carried out properly are not met.

5. Obligations of the organizer

Admission to the tournament is the responsibility of the organizer.

The organizer is obliged to organize a safe and orderly course of the event, especially the tournament. He has to submit the forms necessary for securing the date with the association and see to it, that the event is registered with the relevant authorities, in particular the veterinary authority, if necessary, and that any existing official requirements are adhered to.

The organizer must allow sufficient time for checking the identity of the dogs and measuring new starters.

The organizer is in particular responsible for the following tasks:

- Acceptance of registrations and checking for completeness and accuracy in accordance with these examination regulations,
- creation of the starter lists and the schedule,
- ensuring that all materials needed for the tournament are present and ready for use,
- preparation of the playing field before the tournament,
- message to the judge:
 - no later than four weeks before the event, if there are any deviations in the playing field from the norm,
 - no later than seven days before the event:
 - the total number of starters in the classes and distance groups,
 - confirmation that sufficient people are available to carry out the event properly in accordance with the requirements of these examination regulations.
 - Before the exam begins:
 - Providing a chip check list consisting of start number, name of the dog and identification feature (chip or tattoo number),
 - checking the submitted examination documents for validity (see 6.2),
 - checking whether the team has permission to start in the registered class,
 - first inspection to determine whether a dog is suspected of violating animal welfare regulations and, if necessary, notification of the judge,
 - handing over the starter list and the judge's sheets sorted in starting order, in which all the necessary information has been entered, to the judge, posting the starter lists as well as
 - after completing the runs:
 - Evaluating the results, creating the result lists, filling out the examination documents, presenting the examination documents to the judge, creating a tournament report for the judge's signature.
 - The starters may be given a performance sheet with the completed examination documents, on which the number of points achieved, the running time and the errors are recorded for each run.

5.1 Head of the examination

A head of the examination must be appointed for the tournament. The head of the examination is responsible for the proper conduct of the tournament. He ensures that the area has been prepared for the tournament and that all necessary materials and helpers are available. He is available to the judge during the tournament.

The head of the examination may delegate tasks to suitable people or receive support from third parties in carrying out his tasks.

The head of the examination is not allowed to lead a dog in the exam.

5.2 Helpers

If possible, the following helpers should support the head of the examination and the judge on the day of the tournament:

- a timekeeper,
- a linesman at the goal area who acts as a second timekeeper,
- a recorder

- a field helper. Additional field helpers are recommended for classes Tb 2 and Tb 3 (see paragraph 10.1).
- An additional helper is recommended for the teams starting next.

5.3 Standard time and formation

The judge informs the organizer of the variants and the specific standard times for the runs three days before the tournament. The judge may inform the organizer of the course plans and marking points the day before the tournament. The judge will announce the formation of the balls on the day of the tournament before the exam begins.

5.4 Starter and result lists

The organizer will publicly display a starter list with all starting teams in the respective classes in good time before the start of the runs. After the runs, the organizer creates a list of results and presents the completed examination documents and a tournament report to the judge for inspection and signature.

6. Participation requirements

6.1 General

The team is eligible to participate if:

- the dog is identifiable (chip or tattoo),
- a valid rabies vaccination is proven for the dog,
- there is valid liability insurance for the dog,
- the valid examination documents (see paragraph 6.2) are available for the team,
- The team has registered with the organizer (electronically or in paper form) by the registration deadline at the latest. The registration of young people up to 18 years of age must be signed by a legal guardian. The organizer may allow late registrations.

Changes in registration to another class must be reported to the organizer at least seven days before the event. Changes in registration received later do not give the right to start in the desired class. A change of registration to a start "Just for fun" (see paragraph 10.2). can also be done on the day of the exam.

A dog handler may lead several dogs in one exam. A dog may only be led once on an examination day, unless at least one dog handler is a child or young person up to the age of 18. In this case, the dog may only be handled by a maximum of two people. The dog may not be shown twice in classes Tb 3 or Tb 2 on one examination day.

6.2 Examination documents and reporting on the examination day

On the day of the exam, valid examination documents for each team must be presented to the registration office before the examination begins. For dogs from association clubs authorized to take examinations, an association examination document issued for the dog must be presented. Starters from VDH member clubs that are not authorized to take exams or from those that do not issue Treibball exam documents can use the VDH tournament card as an alternative to document participation in the exam and as proof of promotion qualifications. This regulation applies equally to starters without VDH membership.

The examination documents will be handed out again at the end of the tournament by the registration office.

6.3 Identity control

The mandatory identity check is carried out by the judge using the chip check list provided by the organizer. The judge may delegate the task to the head of the examination or another impartial person who may not be the dog handler or owner. If the chip is not found, the dog handler is given one opportunity to carry out the search himself. The reading is then repeated again by the judge or the person appointed by him. The judge determines the time of the chip check.

Dogs whose identity cannot be clearly established will not be evaluated and will be excluded from the tournament. If the chip check only takes place after the first run, no points will be awarded in this case.

6.4 Measuring

If there is no size information entered in the examination documents that allows a clear assignment to a distance group in accordance with these examination regulations, the dog must be measured before the first start. This must be done by the judge. The judge enters the determined distance group into the examination documents. The judge may measure a dog at any time without giving reasons and, if necessary, correct the distance group.

6.5 Bitches in heat

Female dogs in heat are permitted. They start at the end of the exam. During the rest of the examination day, the bitches are not allowed near the playing field. The organizer will regulate the details.

The organizer may require the wearing of protective pants. He informs the judge. Information about the heat must be given to the head of examination in good time before the event.

6.6 Adjustments for the dog handler

For health reasons, the dog handler can request adjustments or aids when registering. The judge, in consultation with the organizer, decides whether participation is possible and whether and what adjustments will be made.

6.7 Exclusion criteria

Even if all participation requirements are met, dogs are excluded from taking part in the tournament or event under certain conditions.

The organizer can declare exclusion from the entire event at any time. Anyone who is excluded from the event is automatically excluded from the tournament with all consequences. The judge can declare exclusion from the tournament at any time.

An exclusion leads to the revocation of all points, regardless of when it is announced.

Registering a dog even though exclusion criteria are known can be considered unsportsmanlike behavior.

6.7.1 Pregnant / lactating bitches

Pregnant or lactating female dogs are excluded from the event. A separate publication from the VDH provides information about blocking periods for pregnant and lactating bitches.

6.7.2 Illness / injury / risk of infection

Sick dogs or dogs suspected of being infectious are excluded from the event. Injured dogs are excluded from the tournament. The organizer can also exclude an injured dog from the event.

6.7.3 Doping

A dog that is registered by its owner to take part in a tournament and is brought into the event area by him or the dog handler must be free in all its tissues, body fluids and excretions of all substances listed in the VDH substance group list on the day of the event. The substance group list, implementation of controls and possible sanctions for violations are published in a corresponding VDH set of rules. Dogs that do not meet this requirement will be excluded from the event.

7. Exam season

Tournaments can be held all year round if weather conditions permit and the safety and health of people and animals are not endangered. Otherwise otherwise the event must be cancelled.

8. Exam days

1. Saturday, Sunday and public holiday
2. Fridays and bridge days can each be protected as a whole day. The prerequisite is that the weekend or the adjacent part of the weekend is also protected.

The holiday regulations of the respective counties or special regulations of the member associations must be observed.

9. Presence

If the event area is left during the tournament, there is no right to make up for a missed start. Approval must be obtained from the head of the exam or the judge before leaving.

10. Classes, distance groups, minimum age

10.1 Classes

There are five classes:

Treibball (Tb) 0, Tb 1, Tb 2, Tb 3 and Senior.

To start in the Tb 0 and Senior classes, only the general participation requirements (see paragraph 10.4) and the minimum age regulations (see paragraph 10.2) must be met. To start in classes Tb 1 to Tb 3, the promotion requirements (see paragraph 12) must also be met. After starting in the Senior class, the dog may no longer be run in another class.

10.2 Start „Just for fun“

All teams that meet the general participation requirements (see paragraph 6.1) have the opportunity to start “Just for fun”. In contrast to the general participation requirements, no valid examination documents (see paragraph 6.2) need to be presented when starting “Just for fun”.

The start takes place taking into account the minimum age according to the specifications of a freely chosen class and distance group that is offered in the tournament.

10.3 Distance Groups

The dogs are divided into three groups according to their shoulder height:

Distance group	Shoulder height of the dog
Small	under 35 cm
Medium	from 35 cm and under 45 cm
Large	from 45 cm

10.4 Minimum age

The following minimum age limits apply to the dog:

- Tb 0 completed 12 months of life
- Tb 1 to 3 completed 15 months of age
- Senior aged 8 years or over

The age on the day of the exam applies.

11. Rules of the game

11.1 Playing field and goal

The playing field is usually approx. 15 m x 30 m in size and is surrounded by fencing (see paragraphs 4.1 and 4.3). The goal is located on one of the two narrow sides (goal side). It is 3 m wide and 3 m deep (see paragraph 4.2).

The playing field and goal together form the examination area.

11.2 Choosing the correct ball size

The dog handler is free to choose the size of the ball. The ball size must be appropriate for the size of the dog. There must be no danger to the dog. The judge may assign a team a ball size other than that chosen by the handler.

11.3 Number and distance of balls

Depending on the class, the following number of balls must be driven per run:

Class	Number of balls
Tb 0 / Tb 1 / Senior	3
Tb 2	6
Tb 3	8

The maximum distance of the balls from the goal depends on the class and the distance group. It is in meters:

	Small	Medium	Large
Tb 0	3	4	5
Tb 1	5	7	10
Tb 2	7	10	15
TB 3	10	15	20
Senior	3	5	7

The distance is measured on the long side of the rectangle from the goal side. In the Classic variant, this determines the distance from ball 1 to the center of the goal. In the other variants, this defines the area on which the formation may be placed.

11.4 Basic rules

Aids and motivational tools

The dog will be walked with a standard collar or harness during the event. Educational assistance and coercive measures are not permitted. Dog aids (e.g. hair tie, tick collar) to remain on the dog during the examination must be approved by the judge before the team enters the goal. It is the dog handler's responsibility to obtain this permission. Other dog clothing or decorations are not permitted in the examination. There is no entitlement to approval of an aid.

It is permitted to carry a motivational device (food, toys) hidden in a bag on your body. A visible food bag is not permitted. The judge may request that training aprons or vests be removed. This will be communicated before the exam begins and applies equally to all participants.

On and off leashes

The dog is on a leash when entering the goal. He is taken off the leash before the inspection (see below). After taking the final position (see paragraph 11.7), the dog is leashed again in the goal.

Touching and rewarding the dog

The dog can be rewarded by feeding at any time in the goal. The food may only be taken out of the pocket and must immediately be given as a reward.

While the dog is on a leash, it may be rewarded with a toy or petted by the handler.

Touching the dog to gain advantage or to exert pressure is prohibited at any time in the entire examination area.

Start preparation

After entering the goal, the handler informs the judge whether he would like to inspect the playing field before the run. The dog is then taken off the leash and the collar or harness and any unauthorized aids are removed. The leash, collar or harness and aids must be stored so that the dog cannot see them.

If the judge has approved, the handler can now briefly inspect the playing field with or without the dog. The dog handler is not allowed to touch the balls. No balls should be moved by the dog. No training is allowed. If a ball is moved by the dog, the handler may put the ball back after clearance from the judge.

After the inspection, the dog handler is in the goal with his dog before the start of the run.

Carrying out the run

At the start of a run, the balls lie in their positions on rings on the playing field. Balls that are driven or rolled from the ring or their starting position during the run are worked from the point to which they rolled. The judge may refrain from using the rings. In the Fetch and Send variants, the ring must be replaced by a marking in this case. The decision can be made differently for each class and run.

The start is approved by the judge by visual and/or auditory signals. Only then can the dog start the run.

The dog handler directs the dog from the goal using auditory and visual signals. The dog is sent from the right or left side of the handler.

The balls must be driven into the goal by the dog in ascending numerical order. Only the ball in its turn may be driven into the goal.

The dog should not drive the ball over the fences or out the back exit of the playing field. If this does happen, a helper will place the ball back on the playing field at the point where the ball left the playing field, approx. 1 m away from the edge of the playing field. The dog handler brings the dog into the goal and continues the work from there after approval from the judge. Time continues to run.

The ball must be driven over the goal line from the field into the goal.

The handler is not allowed to enter the playing field or to step on goal line during the run.

When the handler is on the field, the dog is not allowed to drive a ball. If the dog drives a ball while the handler is on the field, the handler must stop this immediately.

The dog handler is not allowed to leave the examination area during the run. The dog must not do this out of disobedience.

Ball touched by the dog handler

On the field, the ball belongs to the dog. The dog alone drives the ball into the goal. Only in the goal does the ball belong to the dog handler. A ball that is on the playing field may not be touched by the dog handler. What counts is the contact area of the ball on the ground.

The dog handler must not prevent the dog from driving a ball into the goal by either actively or passively touching the ball.

As soon as a ball has completely crossed the goal line, the ball belongs to the handler and he is allowed to touch the ball. This also applies if a ball once in the goal rolls back onto the field. It may be rolled back into the goal by the dog handler. The dog handler is allowed to enter the playing field briefly for this purpose.

11.5. External influences, material defects, time-out

If weather conditions warrant, the judge may shorten the distance in the Classic variant.

The judge may cancel the examination during a run and continue or repeat it later or order an interruption of the timing (time-out).

A time-out can, among other things, be ordered in the following cases:

- If controlled work is not possible due to strong winds or other external circumstances,
- if a ball rolls out of its position, off the field or into the goal due to external influences,
- if a ball in the Tb 0 or Senior classes, for whatever reason, rolls well beyond the distance that a dog in these classes can manage, or rolls into a corner in such a way that the dog cannot get it there,
- when a ball noticeably loses air,
- if in the Send variant a ball rolls behind a station ball in such a way that it is blocked.

In these cases, the timing is interrupted and the judge gives further instructions, including: whether the dog starts out of the goal or behind a specific ball after the break. Timing continues as directed by the judge.

In situations that are based on external circumstances (wind, material defects, etc.), no fault is incurred by the team.

If the run is repeated, the assessment restarts. In the event of an interruption, the fault points accumulated up to that point are retained.

11.6. Timing, time limit, false start

The dog handler is in the goal with the dog and waits for the judge's signal. The handler must have both feet in the goal at the start and end of the run.

Start Dog crosses the goal line with his front paws.

End The time measurement ends when the dog has taken a sitting or down position in the goal after the last ball has been driven into the goal. All of the dog's paws must be in the goal. If the position is shown before the dog is completely in the goal, this must be corrected. The time runs until the position is correctly assumed in the goal.

The time limit per run is one minute per ball, or a maximum of six minutes.

If you start before the judge has cleared the course ("false start"), the run will be stopped by the judge. The team gets one chance to repeat the start.

11.7. Runs and variants

There will be two runs.

There are four variants:

Classic	Shed	Fetch	Send
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Two of these variants must be set in each exam. The judge determines the variants, formation and standard time for the runs. They will be announced on the day of the tournament. The same formation is laid in each distance group of a class. The distances are adjusted as proportionally as possible.

The organizer determines the order according to variants, classes and distance groups in agreement with the judge.

Classic

In this variant, an outrun and lift must be shown. The balls are in a pyramid shape. They are approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ ball diameter apart from each other. Ball 1 is at the top of the pyramid. The judge decides the positions of the other balls in the pyramid. They are the same for all teams in the class. The top of the pyramid is located in the middle in front of the goal at the respective maximum distance of the class and distance group. Ball 1 must be pushed first during the lift.

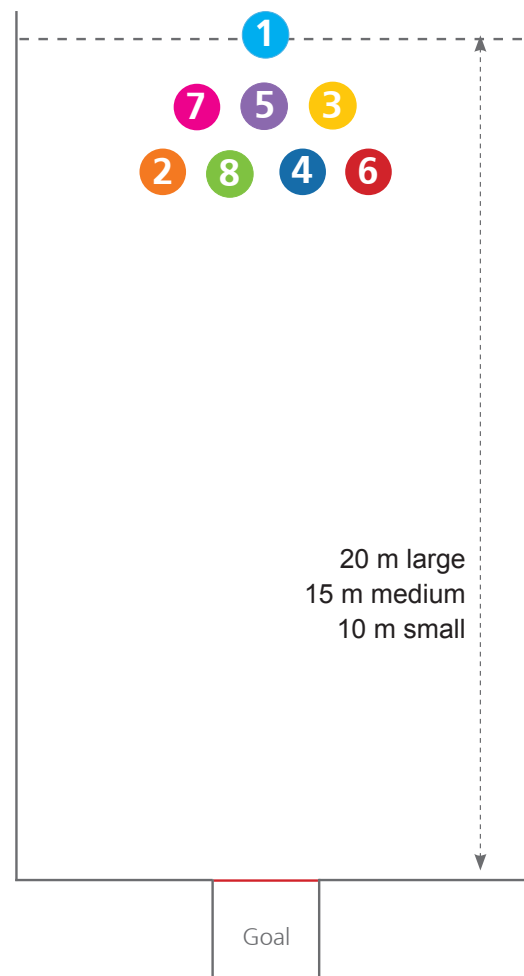
The dog is not allowed to drive the ball into the fences. The goal post does not count as the fence.

Outrun and Lift

The following applies to the outrun:

- The dog handler is not allowed to enter the playing field or to step on the goal line.
- The dog is sent to ball 1 with a maximum of two short commands. A combination of auditory and visual signals counts as one command. A continuous command is not permitted.
- The dog is not allowed to cross between the handler and the balls.
- The dog is not allowed to change the formation of the balls during the outrun.
- The outrun is complete when the dog shows a stop behind or next to ball 1.

If one of the criteria is not met, the outrun is failed.



The following applies to the lift:

- The lift begins with the dog showing a stop behind or next to ball 1.
- The dog handler is not allowed to enter the playing field of play or the goal line.
- Only one short command may be given for the lift. A combination of auditory and visual signals counts as one command.
- The dog drives ball 1 on command.
- No other ball may be driven before ball 1.
- The lift is finished when ball 1 has been pushed once. What counts is the dog's visible effort.

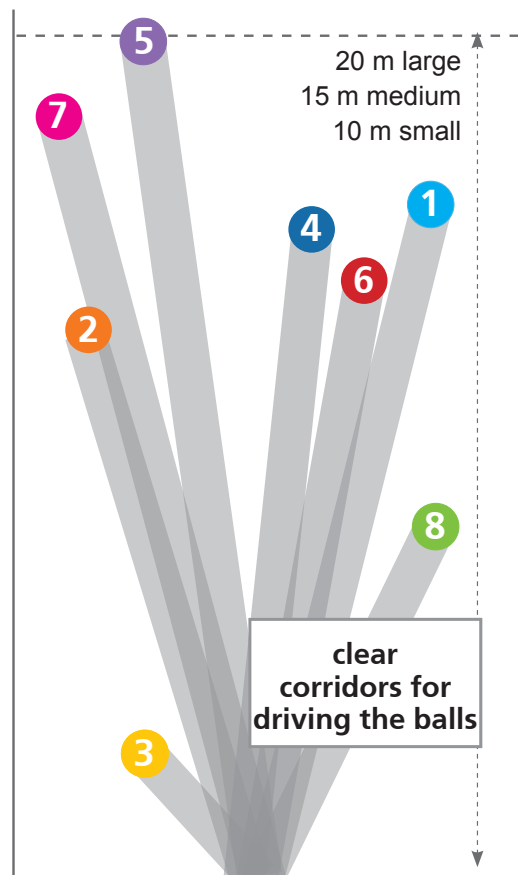
If one of the criteria is not met, the lift is failed.

Fetch

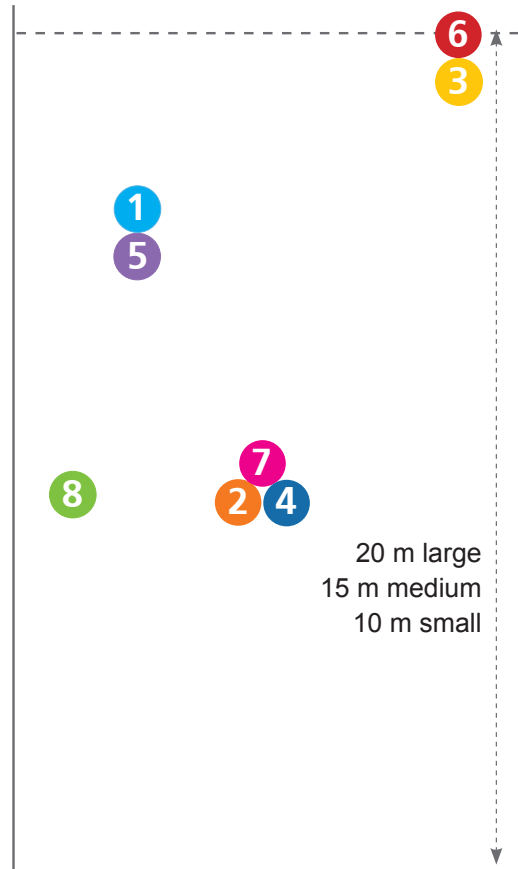
- There is a clear corridor from each ball to the goal, so that the ball can be driven into the goal from the starting position without touching another ball that is still on its ring.
- The balls are placed on rings with a distance of at least 1.5 times the ball diameter from each other and from the fence.
- Only the ball in its turn may be driven from the ring. It is irrelevant whether the ball was driven off the ring directly by the dog or was pushed off the ring by another ball.

Shed

- Closed formations where the numerically lower ball is blocked by numerically higher balls are permitted.
- The balls can touch each other.
- The balls are at least one ball diameter away from the fences or the goal line.
- The dog is not allowed to drive the ball into the fences. The goal post does not count as the fence.



Goal Example Fetch Tb 3



Goal Example Shed Tb 3

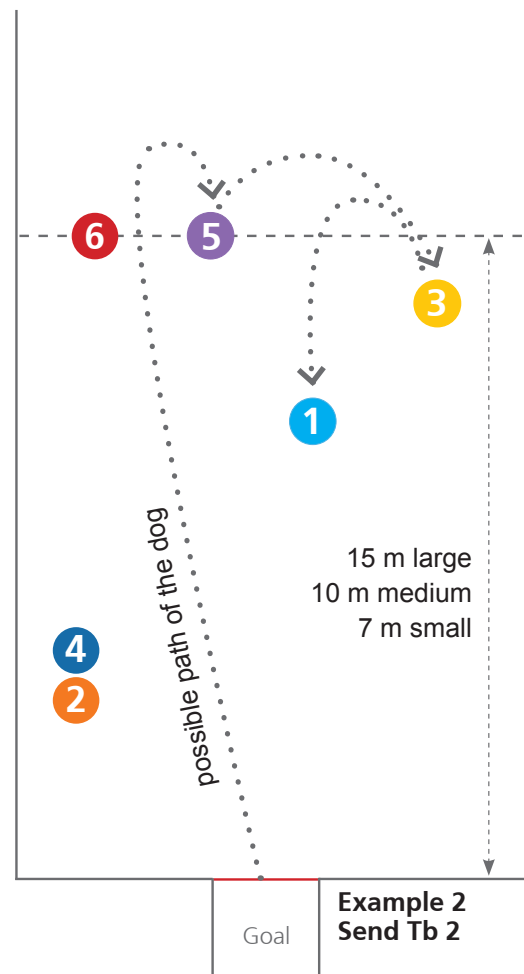
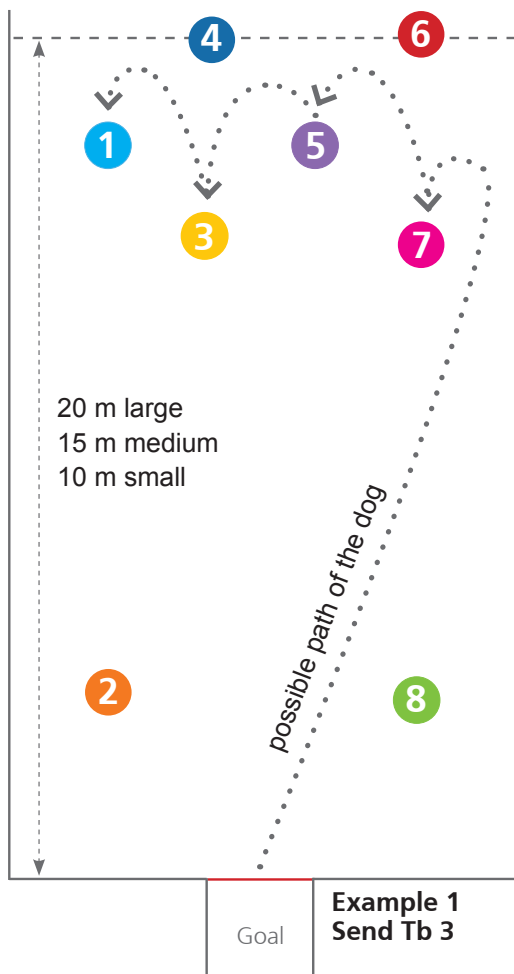
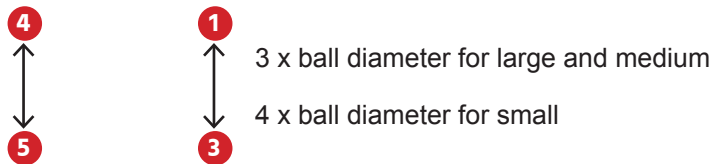
Send

Before driving ball 1, the following balls must be approached:

Classes	Balls that have to be approached in their order
Tb 0 /Tb 1 / Senior	3 – 1
Tb 2	5 – 3 – 1
Tb 3	7 – 5 – 3 – 1

The dog has to show a stop at these balls (“station balls”). No other ball may be driven before ball 1. The balls are at least one ball diameter away from the fences or the goal line.

The following minimum distances apply for balls that are behind station balls.



Standard times

Standard times are set by the judge for each run. The task must be completed by the team in this time.

Standard time and standard speed are set by the Treibball Ausschuss (specialist committee) of the VDH. They are announced to the judges at the beginning of each year. Default times and speeds are based on actual run times. After the tournament, the judge reports the necessary data to the VDH committee.

12. Rating, promotion and relegation

12.1 Maximum points

The maximum number of points per run is the number of balls on the field times ten. It is achieved when all balls to be driven have been driven into the goal by the team without faults within the standard time.

Classes	Maximum points per run
Tb 0 /Tb 1 / Senior	30
Tb 2	60
Tb 3	80

12.2 Abort

Abort occurs in the following cases:

Dog

- visibly and actively destroys a ball (see paragraph 11.6)
- defecates or urinates on the field or in the goal,
- puts itself at risk while driving the ball,
- starts with a collar, harness or an unapproved aid,
- leaves the examination area due to disobedience.

Dog handler

- starts twice without approval from the judge,
- puts pressure on the dog or endangers the dog,
- uses a motivational device inappropriately or carries it visibly with him,
- discusses with the judge,
- behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner or
- cancels the examination, e.g. by leaving the examination area or by actively changing the task.

Team

- exceeds the time limit.

The judge decides whether the aborted run can be completed as a practice run and whether a team that was aborted in run 1 can take part in run 2 for practice purposes.

If a dog is injured during the run, shows clearly visible signs of stress or is limited in its performance, the judge has the right to abort the exam for this dog, even against the dog handler's assessment. In these cases, the aborted run may not be continued and participation in the tournament ends.

If a run is aborted, the result is "Failed" and no points are awarded.

12.3. Fault points

Any violation of the rules of the game that does not result in abort will result in fault points.

12.3.1. Ball fault points

The following errors are counted individually for each ball. A maximum of 10 fault points per ball will be scored.

Fault points	Fault points in all variants	
1	A driven ball that was not in the goal, touches the passive dog handler.	
5	The dog drives a ball while the handler is on the field.	
10	The dog	drives the wrong ball into the goal.
		drives a ball out of the playing field.
	The dog handler	tolerates or encourages driving the ball while on the field.
		prevents a ball from rolling into the goal by actively touching the ball.

Fault points	Fetch	Classic und Shed	Send
1	The dog indirectly or unintentionally drives a ball off the ring out of sequence.		Before ball 1, another ball is driven directly and intentionally off the ring.
3	The dog directly or intentionally drives a ball off the ring out of sequence.	The dog drives the actively driven ball into the fence. The fence fault is only counted once per ball.	A station ball is not approached or a stop position is not shown before ball 1 is driven.

12.3.2. Run fault points

The following fault points are counted per run, regardless of a ball.

Fault points				Fault points in all variants
Sen./Tb 0	Tb 1	Tb 2	Tb 3	
1		2	3	Dog handler steps on or over the goalline or the rear goal border.
1		2	3	Dog handler touches the dog inadmissibly.
5		10		Dog handler drops food in the goal.
10				Dog handler touches the dog to gain advantage.
				Fault points in variant Classic
1	2	3		Faulty outrun or lift

12.4 Time measuring, timing fault points

Time is measured in seconds, tenths of a second are rounded. A timing fault occurs when the runtime is slower than standard time. In this case, the difference between runtime and standard time is calculated. This difference divided by 10 gives the timing fault points. Decimal places are rounded to the next highest whole number.

There are no time faults in the senior class.

12.5 Total score and placement

The total score is calculated as follows:

Per run

- The ball, run and timing fault points are added together.
- The fault points calculated in this way are deducted from the maximum achievable number of points for the run. If the sum of the deductions exceeds the maximum achievable number of points for the run, zero points will be awarded.
- The result is the score of the run.

The scores from the two runs are added together to give the total score.

Placement is either based on classes only or on classes and distance groups. The decision is made by the organizer. It will be announced to participants at the start of the event at the latest. Placement is based on total points. If placing is based on classes and distance groups, one class winner should be determined for each class. The team with the highest total points wins. If the total number of points is the same, the place will be awarded according to the faster overall running time. Teams with the same result will be placed equally. The resulting vacant positions remain unfilled.

Participants "Just for fun" are not placed, but they should be included in the award ceremony.

12.6 Entry of the examination results

The examination result will only be entered into the examination documents presented when registering. If you have several association affiliations, the entry is only made in one document. Additions at a later date are not permitted.

12.7 Grades, promotion and relegation

Depending on the minimum total number of points achieved, the following grades are awarded:

Classes	Tb 0 / Tb 1 / Senior		Tb 2		Tb 3	
	1	2	1	2	1	2
Maximum points	30	30	60	60	80	80
in total	60		120		160	
Excellent	54		110		150	
Very good	48		100		140	
Good	42		90		130	
Passed	36		80		120	

If the minimum number of points for the grade “passed” is not achieved, the result is “failed”.

The grades determine the team’s promotion to the next class. With an “Excellent” or three “Very Good” grades the team can start in the next class.

Each team must meet the promotion criteria; the promotion of the dog or the dog handler alone is not decisive.

Every team can choose to be relegated.

The same rules apply to re-promotion as to promotion.

13. Disqualification

13.1 Disqualification due to poor social compatibility

A dog that bites, attempts to bite, attacks or attempts to attack any person or other dog at any time during the event will be immediately disqualified. All points will be withdrawn even if the demonstration has already been completed. The dogs must demonstrate social compatibility before the next start in a Treibball tournament. The judge makes the decision about disqualification. The decision cannot be appealed. The disqualification will be entered into the examination documents by the judge on the day of the examination and signed by him. The entry reads: “Disqualification due to poor social compatibility, dog must prove social compatibility through a suitable examination before the next start in a Treibball tournament.” The judge sends the examination documents to the VDH member club that secures the tournament date, from there they are sent to the responsible VDH association with reference to the provisions in these examination regulations.

13.2 Disqualification due to misconduct by the dog handler

Misbehavior by the dog handler during the event can also result in disqualification.

In particular, a disqualification will occur

- if there is an abusive treatment towards the dog,
- in the event of extremely unsportsmanlike behavior on the part of the dog handler (e.g. excessive consumption of alcohol),
- in the event of violations of animal welfare regulations or
- in the case of violations of good morals.

The following is entered into the examination documents:

“Disqualification due to unsportsmanlike behavior of the dog handler”. The judge sends the examination documents to the VDH member association that secures the tournament day, from there they are given to the responsible VDH association with a reference to the provisions in these examination regulations.

14. Entry of the examination results in the examination documents

The entry of the examination result in the examination documents must contain the following:

- Date and place of the examination
- Name of the dog handler
- Class
- Variants
- Total points
- Grade; optional: grade and placement, if necessary with distance group
- Signature and/or stamp of the judge

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