

# WAO Rules & Regulations 2024

## Summary of Amendments and Clarifications

The WAO Rules & Regulations for 2024 have been released and are available on the WAO website. There is a copy with changes in red as well as the usual copy with black type.

The main rule changes for 2024 are stated below.

### **1.5 Automatic Entry for Prior Year's Medallist and International Champions**

Those eligible to compete under this section and not competing for their country must apply to the WAO office by 1<sup>st</sup> March.

#### **1.5.1 Prior WAO Medallists**

All three medallists (Gold, Silver and Bronze) in each height of the Junior Championship are now invited back to compete at the following year's WAO.

#### **1.7.2 Dogs**

Clarification that no additional dogs can be entered once the closing date for Team entry has passed.

#### **1.7.2 Handlers**

Clarification that a handler who competes for one country cannot compete for another country for 3 years unless approved by WAO.

Clarification that no additional dogs can be entered once the closing date for Team entry has passed.

#### **1.7.3 Junior Handler Eligibility**

For the 2024 event, all Junior handlers must have been born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005.

#### **1.7.5 Entry changes and substitutions for injuries**

Confirmation that the deadline for changes/substitutions is 10 minutes after the last Official Training Session finishes.

#### **1.11 Rules of Conduct**

No photographs or videos may be taken during the check in process.

### **2.2 Pentathlon Championship**

In the event of a tie in the after 2 results and after 4 results, both dogs will progress.

#### **2.2.1 Pentathlon Scoring**

Maximum total score is 100 so any score over this will be changed to an elimination.

### **2.3 Biathlon Championship**

In the event of a tie after the Jumping round, both dogs will progress.

### **2.4 Games Championship**

In the event of a tie after the Snooker round, both dogs will progress.

### **2.5.1 Team Scoring**

Maximum total score is 100 so any score over this will be changed to an elimination (apart from in Team Relay)

### **3.5.1 General Gamblers Rules**

Clarification around consecutive gamble obstacles being performed in the opening.

### **3.6.1 General Snooker Rules**

Clarification on outcome if an obstacle is demolished.

### **3.7 Bonus Class**

The winner of each height of the Bonus Speedstakes will win a place in the Biathlon event at the next year's WAO.

Clarification of the Running order rules for Bonus Speedstakes.

### **4.6 General Running Order Rules**

A new number of dogs gap between multiple dogs being run by the same handler.

### **6. Obstacle performance standards (various sections, also in section 7)**

Confirmation that if, as a result of a refusal, any part of an obstacle is displaced, meaning it can no longer be completed, this will incur an elimination.

#### **6.12.1 Start Line (also in section 7)**

Toys may be taken to the start line.

### **10 Refusal Guidelines**

Page 39 – Clarification on when the dog must ascend to the obstacle

Page 41 – New weave diagrams