



World Agility Open (WAO)

2026

Conditions for joining the Hungarian delegation

WAO 2026 date and location:

The runs will take place between **May 13-17, 2026**, over 5 days on 3 courses in parallel. Training, registration, measurement and veterinary examination are expected to take place on May 11-12. The members of the Hungarian delegation undertake to remain on site for the entire duration of the competition, to participate in the opening and closing ceremonies, and to assist their teammates to the best of their ability during the competition.

Location:

National Hippic Centre (KNHS), Hollandia, Ermelo
KNHS-centrum Ermelo
De Beek 125, 3852 PL
Postbus 3040, 3850 CA

WAO 2026 competition rules, size categories:

At the time of team selection, handler must be a citizen of Hungary, or have a birth certificate from Hungary, have parents or grandparents born in Hungary or have permanent resident status.

The members of the Hungarian delegation undertake to familiarize themselves with the competition rules to the best of their knowledge before declaring their intention to participate. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact the country manager. All relevant information about the competition can be found at <https://worldagilityopen.com/> .

We draw your attention to the fact that although the handler and the dog must know the same things on the course as in the competitions we are used to, the size categories, the calculation of the results and some detailed regulations different from what is usual in Hungary.

Dogs can compete in 5 size categories at WAO:

250: jump height 25cm, dog height at withers **up to 32cm**

300: jump height 30cm, dog height at withers **up to 38cm**

400: jump height 40cm, dog height at withers **up to 44cm**

500: jump height 50cm, dog height at withers **up to 50cm**

600: jump height 60cm, dog height at withers **over 50cm**

Any dog can be entered in a size higher than its own size category, of course in this case it must compete in this size throughout the event.

WAO 2026 selection competition:

Anyone who wants to be a member of the 2026 Hungarian WAO delegation **must participate in the competition organized by MAGISZ in October 5, 2025** (in Pest County). MAGISZ reserves the right to change the date of the competition. The result of this determines the “**3in1 team member**” of each size category as follows: Each participant in the competition runs a Snooker and a Gambler course. The combined results of these runs are calculated in the same way as in the WAO Games Championship. The points earned in the runs are added up, and the competitor with the most points wins. The times of the runs are also added up, and among the competitors with the same points, the one with the shorter time is ranked first. If the points and time are the same, the competitor with the better position in the Gamblers run is ranked first. **The competitor with the best position in the combined results list among the qualifying competitors wins the opportunity to become a 3in1 team member.**

The 3in1 team member is entitled to compete in all three individual events (Biathlon, Pentathlon, Games). The 3in1 team member does not automatically obtain the right to participate in the team competition, as it is influenced by the number of competitors participating in the given size category and the number of courses that other team members can run. The country manager is entitled to decide on the other members of the Hungarian delegation based on the results of the selection competition, the number of nominees, the nominees' previous achievements, etc., based on the team's interests being the most important. If, based on the above criteria, it is not clear who should represent our country, the country manager can collect further information from potential nominees, and in the final case, she can set a goal - a competition later than the meeting - and will decide based on the results.

The country manager is only entitled to change the process of selecting a 3in1 team member if the selection competition cannot be held for any reason, or the competition organizers make significant changes that make it impossible to comply with what is outlined in this document.

Dogs that do not turn 2 years old by the day of the selection competition, but are already eligible to compete by the time of the WAO, have the opportunity to join the team in a simplified way, with the handler undertaking that the dog will be properly prepared for such a large competition by the time of the competition.

The country manager will contact all applicants for consultation no later than October 1, 2025. After that, no later than the end of October, the nominees will be asked to state whether they agree to participate under the given conditions. All invited candidates have 14 days to respond after receiving the written invitation. If someone cancels their participation after answering yes, they will be financially responsible and obliged to pay 50% of the participation fee, which amount can be used exclusively to support the Hungarian delegation.

The members of the delegation undertake to pay the full entry fee by the end of December 2025, otherwise they will lose the right to participate and another competitor may take their place.

WAO 2026 juniors:

Each country can enter 1 junior pair per size category, so we are looking for handlers born after May 1, 2007 who would like to participate in this competition. Competitors under the age of 18 may only travel to the competition accompanied by at least one parent. As a general rule, junior competitors do not run in team races, but are entitled to compete in all three individual events (Pentathlon, Biathlon, Games).

Commitments:

Whoever undertakes to be a member of the 2026 Hungarian WAO delegation also undertakes the following:

- participates in the selection competition to be held on October 5, 2025
- accepts that he/she is responsible for all costs related to the competition – including accessories necessary for a uniform appearance
- is aware that if, based on the measurement results, his/her dog falls into a higher size category than the one for which he entered, he/she can only compete in the competition if there is not the maximum number of competitors in the Hungarian team in the higher size
- accepts that he/she is not present at the competition as an individual competitor, but as a member of the Hungarian team
- wears the team's uniform during the races, the opening and closing ceremonies and the results announcements
- supports his/her teammates to the best of his ability throughout the competition
- is aware that he/she is responsible not only for himself, but also for the reputation of the Hungarian team with his behavior
- cooperates with the country manager in the best interests of the team both during the preparation period and during the competition
- if the organizers so require, he/she will take his/her share of the helper tasks during the competition
- participates in possible team meetings
- accepts that based on the WAO regulations, the country manager is entitled to make certain decisions regarding the competitors

The country manager undertakes to:

- carry out administrative tasks in a timely and accurate manner in order to ensure the team's departure
- decisions related to the Hungarian delegation are made by prioritizing the interests of the team at all times and in consultation with the stakeholders
- supports all team members to the best of their ability both during the preparation period and during the competition
- will be available to all team members to ask questions and share difficulties

WAO championships:

- Biathlon
 - 3 hungarian competitors can compete in each size category
 - the competitors run a jumping course, based on the results the bests can advance to the agility course, which is the finale of that championship
 - the finalists will be evaluated based on the combined results of the two courses
 - We are looking for all-or-nothing type pairs for this championship
- Games
 - 3 hungarian competitors can compete in each size category
 - the competitors will compete in a snooker course, the best of which will advance to the gamblers course, which is the finale of the championship
 - the finalists will be evaluated based on the combined results of the two courses
 - We are looking for experienced pairs for this championship who already know their dog's performance well and can plan ahead with it.
- Pentathlon
 - 3 hungarian competitors can compete in each size category
 - the competitors run a jumping and an agility race, the combined result of which allows them to advance
 - those who advance will run one more jumping and one more agility course
 - based on the combined results of the 4 courses, the best can advance to the agility course, which is the finale of the competition
 - the finalists will be evaluated based on the combined results of the 5 courses
 - We are looking for pairs with the most stable performance possible for this shampionship.
- Junior
 - Each country can enter 1 junior pair per size category, who can test their skills in all three individual championship
 - We are looking for young handlers and their dogs who can handle the physical and mental strain of such a big competition.
- Team
 - a country is only eligible to compete in a team championship if it can delegate competitors in all size categories
 - each participating country completes 2 jumping and 2 agility courses

- each of the four courses is run by 1 dog per size from the team
- the country manager is responsible for submitting to the organizers on the given competition day which 5 hungarian dogs will be running in the given courses
- our 4 best results out of 5 are taken into account per courses
- based on the combined results of the 4 courses, the best countries will advance to the team relay course, which is the finale of the championship
- in the finale, 3 dogs of different size categories make up the team, everyone runs the part of the common course corresponding to their own size
- in the finale, the results of the 3 dogs are evaluated together, their points are added up, and the time is determined by the time between the start of the first dog and the time when the last dog crosses the finish line
- For this competition, we select the pairs for each course based on the interests of the team. In the event that we reach the final, we will likely select the 3 most stable dogs, regardless of speed.

Country manager:

In 2026, the country manager of the Hungarian delegation of the WAO will be **Éva Bacsinszky**, who, in cooperation with the Hungarian Agility Association, will help our country participate in the competition. If you are interested in participating, please feel free to contact Eva in person, via messenger or one of the following contact details, and I will inform you about your next steps.

Contact details:

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