



2026 World Agility Open Team Zimbabwe Selection Document

Following the success and acceptance of Team Zimbabwe at the 2025 World Agility Open Championships, we would like to invite all eligible competitors with an interest to join Team Zimbabwe to the 2026 World Agility Open Championships that will be held May 13-17, 2026 at KNHS National Equestrian Centre in Ermelo, Netherlands.

<http://www.worldagilityopen.com>

Selection Criteria

All interested handlers are to advise Team Zimbabwe management of their intention to compete by completing the Team Application Google Form by no later than 30th November 2025. It is assumed that if a handler completes this form and qualifies, they will attend.

[Team Application Form](#)

By 1st January 2026, each handler and dog combination will need to submit 2 videos (one agility and one jumping) to the team manager. Video submissions must be one continual video of the run over a course of similar standard and complexity to those expected of the competition.

In the event that more than 3 dogs per height submit applications, the manager will request an additional video be submitted of a course, selected by the manager, with the dogs time being used to make final team selection decisions. If time becomes the deciding factor, the fastest three times will all get a Biathlon and Pentathlon place.

WAO Junior World Championships

In addition to the three places available in each height, one junior handler in each height category is invited to compete for the WAO Junior World Champion. Junior's date of birth must be on or after 1st May 2007. Same rules apply to junior handlers as mentioned above.

Dog & Handler Requirements for Application

All dogs and handlers applying for Team Zimbabwe must meet the following requirements.

Dogs

- The dog must have a microchip.
- The dog must be minimum 18 months old on the date of the competition.
- No Pedigree is required.
- The dog must be able to meet the vet requirements for travel to the Netherlands as well as for international air travel [Zimbabwe-Regulations-amended-3-May-2022.pdf](#) – (see also the WAO website)
- The dog must have an official WAO measurement and/or a measurement by an official judge from an agility organization to determine that dog is not close to the height cutoff



Handlers

- At the time of team selection, handlers must be a citizen of the **Republic of Zimbabwe**, or have a birth certificate from the **Republic of Zimbabwe** or **Rhodesia**, have parents or grandparents born in the **Republic of Zimbabwe** or **Rhodesia** or have permanent resident status and be able to travel internationally with the team by the time of the team's departure and return
- The handler who submits videos for selection MUST be the same handler who is listed on the application form and who will run the dog at the WAO.
- The handler and dog must be available to commence travel to the venue in a reasonable time before the event to be with the team and participate in the official and unofficial training.
- You are responsible for paying for all of your own expenses including (but not limited to) flights, dog's flight, ferries, hotel/camping, transportation, dog health paperwork, meals, incidentals, etc., This includes costs for a parent/guardian accompanying juniors.
- Any handler under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Jump Height/Dog Height

There are five qualifying height divisions. Dogs may compete in a division larger than the actual dogs' height but cannot compete in a lower division. Example: A dog which measures 450mm may enter & compete in the 600 division but cannot compete in the 400 division. An official measurement will be taken on the day at the WAO for all dogs applying for the 500 classes and lower, unless an official WAO measurement has already been taken for that dog.

JUMP HEIGHT NAME	DOG HEIGHT AT WITHERS	JUMP HEIGHT
250	320mm & under	250mm
300	380mm & under	300mm
400	440mm & under	400mm
500	500mm & under	500mm
600	Over 500mm	600mm

Team Zimbabwe Policies

- By entering and being a part of Team Zimbabwe you agree to and accept all the rules and conditions set out in the WAO Rules and Regulations - [WAO 2026 Rules](#).
- You are solely responsible for your own conduct before, at and after the competition. You will always conduct yourself in a positive and respectful manner, both in person and online.
- Any breaches of Team Zimbabwe policies or WAO's sportsmanship guidelines will result in the immediate removal from the competition and prevent further representation of Team Zimbabwe.



ABOUT WAO

Classes and Events

Competitors will vie for four World Championship titles at the WAO, three individual and one team. Refer also to the WAO 2026 Rules and Regulations for an overview of all classes. [WAO 2026 Rules](#).

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

Pentathlon Championship

The Pentathlon consists of 2 rounds of Agility, 2 rounds of Jumping, and 1 round Speedstakes. The combined results from the 5 classes determine the Individual Pentathlon World Champion. One Pentathlon world champion will be declared in each jump height. Scoring is cumulative; faults are added to time, and the lowest score wins in all aspects of the Pentathlon. Each country can enter 3 dogs per jump height.

Biathlon Championship

The Biathlon consists of 1 round of Agility followed by 1 round of Jumping. The combined results of the two classes determine the Biathlon World Champion. One world champion will be declared in each jump height. Scoring is cumulative; least faults wins with time as tie breaker only, in all aspects of the Biathlon. Each country can enter 3 dogs per jump height.

Games Championship

The Games Championships consists of 1 round of Snooker followed by 1 round of Gamblers. The combined results of the two classes determine the Games World Champion. One world champion will be declared in each jump height. Scoring is cumulative; highest number of points wins with time as tie breaker only, in all aspects of the Games Championship. Each country can enter 3 dogs per jump height.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITION

The Team event will consist of 2 (two) Agility runs, 2 (two) Jumping runs, and a Team Relay class. The combined results from the five (5) classes determine the country that will be named the WAO Team World Champion. A country must have at least 1 (one) dog in each of the 4 (four) height divisions in order to be eligible to enter the Team Championship. All of the country's team members listed on the official team entry form are eligible for this event, providing the following height requirements are met: Each country will enter 4 (four) dogs in each of the first four rounds: the 2 (two) Agility rounds and the 2 (two) Jumping rounds. Each of the 4 (four dogs) must compete in a different jump height. Three scores per round will count with the lowest score in the team being dropped.

If at any time during the Team Championship competition, a country has an injury or withdrawal that prevents them from meeting the height requirements above, the team must withdraw from the competition.

For the fifth round of the event, the Team Relay class, each country will enter 4 (four) dogs, 1 (one) dog from each jump height. The course will be designed so that each dog will jump its correct height during the relay. All four scores from this round will count. Scoring is cumulative; faults are added to time, and the lowest score wins in all aspects of the Pentathlon.



Junior Championship

The Junior Championship will consist of combining results from the three Individual events (Pentathlon, Biathlon and Games) to determine the WAO Junior World Champion. There will be a separate competition for each jump height and one world champion will be declared in each jump height.