

Selection guidelines, Team Norway World Agility Open Championships 2018

To provide the ultimate in agility competition, showcasing the highest level of agility training, human/canine partnership, and athleticism; and enabling all dogs, whether pedigreed or not, to compete in an environment that is solely focused on the sport of agility. The WAO strives to provide reasonable jump height divisions, an excellent competition surface and environment, and several varieties of contests with maximum runs to adequately test teams for all the skill sets necessary to be the best in dog agility. (WAO Rules & Regulations 2011)

A country's team selection process must according to the WAO rules & regulations allow for at least 1 (one) dog from each height to win its way onto the team, and to run in the Agility Biathlon and the Individual Agility Pentathlon. All places on the Norwegian team are "win on" spots.

The three most successful dogs in each of the four height divisions will be invited to represent Team Norway at the WAO Championships. The WAO Rules & Regulations is allowing for a maximum of two dogs per handler. Norwegians will be able to apply for as many dogs as they wish, but need to state which dogs they prioritise in case more than two fill the requirements for a spot on the team.

Requirements:

- The handler must be a Norwegian citizen or permanent resident.
- The dog must fill the veterinary requirements for the trip, the event and the return to Norway.
- The handler must follow directions given by the WAO committee and by the team management.

Responsibility:

All dogs are entered to the WAO at their owner's risk. While every care will be taken, the WAO and Norwegian Team Management will not accept responsibility for loss, damage or injury however caused to dogs, persons or property while at, or travelling to, the event. Further conditions are outlined in the Norwegian WAO 2018 Team Contract, which each participant is required to read, understand and sign.

Questions: Anything unclear? Contact the team management at waonorway@gmail.com

WAO rules and regulations: www.worldagilityopen.com/rules.html

Ingerid Klaveness, team manager
Tone Cecilie Høgestøl, assistant manager

How to apply

Anyone wishing to apply for a spot on WAO Team Norway 2018 must fill out and send the application form to the team management(email address: waonorway@gmail.com) AND fill out the results form online by January 5th 2018 at the latest. All documents will be available at waonorway.wordpress.com and can be requested by emailing the team management (waonorway@gmail.com).

When applying, the applicant needs to state whether he or she wishes to participate in all events (biathlon, pentathlon, games, team pentathlon) and if not, which events. The event fee is fixed regardless of number of events the individual handler chooses to enter. If anyone should wish to participate in fewer events, the opportunity to enter the remaining classes will be offered to the next applicant in line. An applicant that wants to compete in all events will be chosen over applicants that only want to compete in some disciplines/events if they have the same amount of points.

The Team Pentathlon Championship spots will be distributed by the Team Manager.

The Norwegian WAO Team selection provides two parallel possibilities as outlined below. The number of spots per category may be altered in accordance with number of possible spots on the team (see above).

Confirming your spot on the team

By January 10th at the latest, the ranking with results of the selection will be available at waonorway@gmail.com and the top applicants will be invited to participate on the team. Each applicant will receive an e-mail with information regarding their possibility to join the team. The ranking list will include the available participant spots (2-3 per height category as according to WAO rules), reserves (2 per height category) and a waiting list.

Participants need to confirm their spot on the team by signing the team contract and paying the participation fee to the team account number by January 20th. If failing to do so, the spot on the team will go to the next in line.

If there are still spots available on the team by the closing date the remaining spots will be awarded to the first to apply. Available spots will be filled for as long as the team leader sees practically possible. If you want to join the team (or the waiting list) after January 5th, that means no results need to follow the application.

How to qualify

The two options on how to qualify for the team are available in both English and Norwegian, on the next two pages:

In English:

1) Norwegian Open:

One spot on the team per size category can be awarded to a dog and handler team that qualified for the previous year's grand finale at the Norwegian Open Championship (NO 2017). If more than one of the applicants have qualified for the final, the one that placed highest in the final gets the spot. In case of a tie, the following applicant will get the spot (in prioritized order):

- The applicant that qualified more times (through more qualifying runs).
- The applicant that qualified with the highest qualifying placement.
- The applicant that beat the largest number of dogs in the qualifying class(-es).

If still a tie, no spot will be awarded from the NO final, all spots will be awarded by points.

2) Points from official competitions:

The remaining spots on the team will be awarded to the dog and handler-teams that have collected the most points. All points must be collected by the actual dog and handler, not the dog with a different handler.

How points are awarded: The application may contain up to 10 results from official competitions in 2017. 5 of the results can be from standard agility classes, 5 from jumping classes. Up to 3 results from each class can be taken at official competitions abroad, the remaining 3 must be taken in Norway. Results taken abroad must be taken in countries with similar class/grade systems as in Norway, but not necessarily in the same height classes (e. g. Sweden).

In case of a tie, the applicant with the greatest number of clean runs (among the 10 runs counting) is ranked higher. If still a tie, the applicant with the most 1st places is ranked higher, then the applicant with the most 2nd places, and so on. In case of any other ties, the Team Manager decides.

Points per run is awarded like this:

- **Result points:** 10 points for clean runs, 5 points for five fault runs, 2 points for ten fault runs. Times faults are not counted, only course faults and refusals.
- **Time points:** 10 points for the fastest time in the class, 1 point deducted per second behind the fastest time (down to 1 point if 10-10,99 seconds behind). All times in the class count, not just the clean run times. Time is rounded down to the closest whole second. 1,7 seconds behind the fastest time equals 1 point deducted, and 9 time points.
- **Placement points:** 10 points for top 1-2% placement in class, 9 points for top 3-4% placement, down to 1 point for top 19-20% placement in class. Percentage is rounded down to the closest whole percent, so that 18,7 percent equals 18%. 1st place will always equal at least 5 points, no matter how few dogs participated in the class. Percentage is calculated by dividing the placement by the number of participants.
- **Grade multiplication:** Total points from each run is multiplied by 1 for grade 1, by 2 for grade 2, and by 3 for grade 3.

Examples:

- Maximum points are $10+10+10 \times 3 = 90$ points for a clean, winning, fastest run in grade 3.
- Grade 2, clean run, 2nd place of 30 participants, time 35,55 (when fastest time in class was 32,14): Clean run equals 10 result points, $2/30=0,066$ equals top 6% and 8 placement points, $35,55-32,14=3,41$ seconds behind fastest time equals 7 time points. $10+8+7= 25$ points multiplied by 2 = 50 points total.
- Grade 1, 4th place with fastest time and 5 faults, 65 participants in class: 5 result points, $4/65=0,06$ top 6% equals 8 placement points, and fastest time is 10 time points. No grade multiplication for grade 1. $5+8+10= 23$ points.

In Norwegian:

1) Norwegian Open:

En plass på laget per størrelsesklasse kan tildeles en ekvipasje som kvalifiserer seg til finalen på det foregående årets Norwegian Open Championship (NO2017). Hvis flere enn én av søkerne har kvalifisert seg til finale, tildeles plassen til den som plasserer seg høyest i finalen. Hvis likt, går følgende foran (i prioritert rekkefølge):

- Søkeren som har kvalifisert seg flest ganger (gjennom flere kvalifiseringsløp).
- Søkeren som har kvalifisert seg med høyest plassering fra kvalifiseringsløp.
- Søkeren som slo flest hunder i kvalifiseringen (avhengig av deltakerantall i kvalifiseringsklassene).

Hvis fortsatt likt, tildeles ingen plass fra NO-finalen, alle plassene på laget deles ut etter poeng.

2) Poeng fra offisielle konkurranser:

De resterende plassene tildeles de ekvipasjene som har samlet flest poeng. Alle poeng må være samlet av samme hund og handler, altså teller ikke poeng som er tatt av hunden med en annen handler.

Poengsystem: Søknaden kan inneholde inntil 10 resultater fra offisielle konkurranser i 2017. 5 av dem kan være fra agilityklasser, 5 fra hoppklasser. Opp til 3 resultater fra hver klasse kan tas på offisielle konkurranser i utlandet, de siste 2 må være tatt i Norge. Resultater i utlandet må være tatt i land med tilsvarende nivåklasser som i Norge, men ikke nødvendigvis de samme høydeklassene (eksempelvis Sverige).

Ved poenglikhet går den deltakeren som har flest feilfrie løp (blant de ti tellende løpene) foran. Hvis fortsatt likt går deltakeren med flest 1. plasser foran. Deretter den med flest 2. plasser, og så videre. Hvis fortsatt likhet er det opp til Team Manager å ta en beslutning.

Poeng per løp regnes ut slik:

- **Resultatpoeng:** 10 poeng for feilfritt løp, 5 poeng for løp med fem feilpoeng, 2 poeng for løp med ti feilpoeng. Ingen resultatpoeng for løp med mer enn ti feilpoeng. Tidsfeil regnes ikke, kun banefeil og vegringer.
- **Tidspoeng:** 10 poeng for den raskeste tiden på resultatlisten. Ett poeng trekkes fra for hvert sekund din tid er bak den raskeste tiden. Alle tider i klassen regnes - ikke bare tider fra feilfrie løp. Poengene rundes opp til hele poeng (eller tiden rundes ned til hele sekunder) altså gir 1,7 sekunder bak den raskeste tiden 9 hele poeng. Ingen tidspoeng for tider langsommere enn 10,99 sekunder bak den raskeste i klassen.
- **Plasseringspoeng:** 10 poeng for topp 1-2% plassering i klassen, 9 poeng for topp 3-4% i klassen, og så videre ned til 1 poeng for topp 19-20% plassering i klassen. Prosent regnes ned til nærmeste hele prosent, slik at 18,7% betyr 18%. 1. plass gir minimum 5 poeng, selv ved få deltakere i klassen. Prosent regnes ut ved å dele plasseringen på antall deltakere.
- **Klassekoeffisient:** Total poengsum for hvert løp ganges med 1 for klasse 1, med 2 for kl2, og med 3 hvis resultatet ble tatt i klasse 3.

Eksempler:

- Maksimal poengsum er $10+10+10 \times 3 = 90$ poeng for et feilfri 1. plass med raskeste tid i kl 3.
- Kl 2, feilfritt, 2. plass av 30 stk, tid 35,55 når raskeste tid var 32,14:
Feilfritt løp gir 10 resultatpoeng. Plassering $2/30=0,066$ og gir topp 6%, dermed 8 plasseringspoeng. Tiden 35,55 minus beste tid 32,14 = 3,41 sekunder bak, gir 7 tidspoeng. $10+8+7 = 25$ poeng. Ganges med klassekoeffisienten 2, =50 poeng totalt.
- Klasse 1, 4. plass med raskeste tid og 5 feil, 65 deltakere i klassen:
5 resultatpoeng. $4/65=0,06$ gir topp 6%, og dermed 8 plasseringspoeng. Raskeste tid gir 10 tidspoeng. $5+8+10 = 23$ poeng.
- Klasse 1, feilfritt vinnerløp med 5 deltakere i klassen:
10 resultatpoeng. 10 tidspoeng. Plassering $1/5 =$ topp 20%, men 1. plass gir alltid minst 5 poeng. $10+10+5 = 25$ poeng.