

Participation

1. Handlers

§1) All members of the Swedish Rabbit Jumping Federation ("SKHRF") or any other SKHRF-approved federation who have attained the age of seven are entitled to participate in official events. In the event of any violation, the results pertaining to the offending team shall be struck from the standings. Non-members are entitled to participate outside of competition in the light class on a one-time basis without fulfilling the membership requirement. Membership is not required to compete in the mini class.

2. Rabbits

§2) All rabbits regardless of breed are permitted to participate in events. No pedigrees are required.

§3) Rabbits must be at least four months old to participate in competitions or shows. The minimum age is eight months for participation in elite class competitions and one year for participation in high jump and long jump competitions. In the event of any violation, the results for the rabbit in question shall be struck from the standings. Intentional or repeated violations shall be reported to the federation and can lead to exclusion from future competition events.

§4) Rabbits younger than eight weeks old are barred from any competition location. Violating this provision will result in a warning followed by disqualification.

§5) Rabbits younger than three months old may not be present in harnesses/leashes at any competition location. Violating this provision will result in a warning followed by disqualification.

§6) Rabbits must be entirely healthy and free of any contagious disease to participate in any competition or show. Violating this provision will result in a warning followed by disqualification, and the rabbit in question shall be barred from competition until it has become healthy and free of any contagious disease. The determination as to whether any rabbit is fit to compete rests with the presiding judge, who is entitled to demand a veterinarian's certificate in the event of any doubt.

§7) No rabbit, regardless of vaccination history, that is known to have been present at a rabbit yard during any time that the yard was known to have been contaminated with RVHD or myxomatosis shall be entitled to participate in any competition prior to the passing of one month since the yard was established as being free of the contagion. Any member who suspects the existence of either of the above diseases at his or her rabbit yard must report this to the federation. Any violation of this paragraph must be reported to the federation, which will determine appropriate measures.

§8) No rabbit with respect to which there is any risk that it may be pregnant may participate in any competition. Intentional violations entail immediate disqualification and shall be reported to the federation. Exclusion from future competitions may result. Any instance of a pregnant rabbit competing due to a mistake shall be reported to the federation. Any results produced by a pregnant rabbit shall be struck from the standings.

§9) Female rabbits that have produced a litter or stillborn babies are barred from competitions and shows for as long as they are lactating. Such rabbits must also be fit and rested following their giving birth. Competition judges are entitled to bar any female rabbit from competition on the grounds that it is unfit to compete.

3. At competition locations

Competition locations shall include course areas, warm up areas, rabbit holding areas and any directly appurtenant areas where competition participants and spectators may be present to exercise rabbits or watch competitions.

§10) Tobacco, drugs and/or alcohol are prohibited at all competition locations. Violations by event participants or their family members shall be subject to warnings followed by disqualification. Any spectator using tobacco, drugs or alcohol at any competition location will be asked to leave.

§11) Event participants are responsible for ensuring that they and their family members do not behave in a disruptive manner at competition locations. Violations will result in warnings followed by disqualification.

§12) Event participants are responsible for ensuring that any animals that they or their family members bring to any competition location do not create any disturbance. Dogs must be leashed and be handled with appropriate precautions to avoid frightening rabbits. Violations will result in warnings followed by disqualification. Any spectators accompanied by doge or other animals that may cause disturbances shall be asked to move to a place where their animals will not occasion any disturbance.

§13) Event participants shall be responsible for their own and any family members' keeping tidy at competition locations and cleaning up after themselves and their animals. Violations will result in warnings followed by disqualification.

§14) Every rabbit must have access to its own caged area of at least 1000 cc. Rabbits that normally live together may be held together in carriers of appropriate size on condition that they can be separated in the event of any discord. Whether any carrier is of appropriate size is a matter to be decided by the event arrangers in consultation with the judges. Violations may lead to warnings followed by disqualification.

§15) Neither straw nor litter is permitted in carriers. Hay in the form of hay balls or hay nets is permitted. Loose hay is only permitted in carriers overnight and must be removed before the beginning of competition the next day. Violations will result in warnings followed by disqualification.

§16) The mating of rabbits at competition locations is only permitted following the close of competition for the day or at areas designated by the event arrangers. Violations shall entail disqualification of the individuals responsible for both the male and female rabbit being mated.

§17) Rabbits are not to be left unattended or on leashes at competition locations. Owners/handlers must ensure that any rabbits not held in cages or pens are suitably attended to. Violations will be subject to disqualification.

4. Handling of rabbits

§18) Careless handling of a rabbit shall result in a warning followed by disqualification. Seriously negligent handling shall lead to immediate disqualification. The judges, in consultation with one another, shall decide what constitutes seriously negligent handling. Serious and repeated instances shall be reported to the federation. This applies regardless of the time at which the incident in question occurs during the day of competition.

§19) Rabbits shall proceed through courses and jump over obstacles voluntarily. Handlers are prohibited from forcing or carrying rabbits forward over courses, but may lift them over obstacles. Assistance and encouragement may never involve high volume or any subjection of rabbits to stress. Violations will result in warnings followed by elimination. Serious or repeated incidents shall be regarded as incidents of careless handling of a rabbit and result in warnings followed by disqualification.

§20) Judges are entitled to remove any rabbit that must repeatedly be lifted over obstacles or entirely refuses to move as being clearly unwilling to jump.

§21) Handlers may choose exit any round in which their rabbits decline to jump, which constitutes voluntary elimination.

5. Sportsmanship

§22) Handlers must always embody good sportsmanship. Violations will result in warnings followed by disqualification. The judges shall decide, in consultation with one another, what constitutes poor sportsmanship.

§23) Handlers may not intentionally impair rabbits' scores. Violations will be subject to immediate disqualification.

6. Harnesses and leashes

§24) Rabbits must always be kept in approved harnesses and leashes (see glossary for explanations) while in warm up areas or on competition courses. Violations will result in elimination.

§25) Harnesses and leashes that slip to the side or fall off during competition need not be set aright as long as the rabbit is not subjected to any suffering. Any harness that occasions any suffering for a rabbit shall immediately be set aright, without the clock being stopped.

§26) Rabbit's leashes must be securely attached to the belly straps of their harnesses and may only be used to carefully retrieve and steer rabbits. Leashes must hang loose whenever rabbits jump. Pulling or jerking leashes is prohibited. Violations will result in warnings followed by elimination.

§27) Rabbits may be allowed to participate in show jumping, high jump and long jump competitions without a harness/leash if the course or obstacle is within a suitable enclosure. Presiding judges are entitled to forbid jumping without a harness and leash. Violations will result in elimination.

7. Competition

§28) Participants with complaints about the judging following their own or others' runs shall immediately, i.e., before the next team starts, contact the presiding judge to address the problem. In the event of any doubts with regard to judging, the final determination always rests with the presiding judge. Judges are not obliged to consider complaints raised at any time other than immediately following a performance.

§29) Presiding judges are entitled to eliminate any team that shows itself unready to start within 30 seconds of being called up. Participants wishing to exchange starting numbers for whatever reason must obtain approval from a judge. Exceptions apply in the case of parallel-course competition, where participants and judges must cooperate to ensure that competition progresses as smoothly as possible.

§30) Only teams that have been called to the warm up area and/or to the competition course may be present at these places. Violations will result in warnings followed by elimination.

§31) Handlers shall strive to stay behind their rabbits throughout the course and to avoid disturbing the rabbits by running close to or past them. The hand holding the leash should be positioned behind the rabbit whenever the rabbit jumps and to the extent possible whenever on the course. Violations will result in warnings followed by elimination.

§32) Any rabbit that enters a course or leaps over an obstacle otherwise than during its own run will be eliminated from the class competition in question. If the rabbit is not competing in the class competition in question, it will be eliminated from the class competition it is to take part in if that competition has yet to be completed and is to be run on the same course, even if the course is to be adapted somewhat to the needs of the class in question.

§33) Handlers are not allowed to step over obstacles on any course or warm up area. Repeated violations will result in warnings followed by elimination.

8. Jumping course competition

§34) Jumping course competition involves two kinds of courses: straight and winding. The obstacles on straight courses are placed in a straight line. Where space is limited, a gentle curve is permitted. Winding courses have obstacles placed in a special order. No obstacle may be jumped more than once.

§35) Judges must, following approval of a course and prior to the beginning of any class competition, allow the participants to walk the course. They may not be accompanied by their rabbits. Participants shall be entitled to walk a course again in the event that it is changed.

§36) Initial and final obstacles must always be present, but are not taken into account in scoring upsets.

§37) Water jumps should be combined with other obstacles on easy class courses.

§38) Teams called to start must wait behind the starting obstacle for the “you may start” signal from the judge before beginning their runs. Upsetting or jumping the starting obstacle before receiving the starting signal will be counted as a false start (see §43).

(§39) The rabbit that commits the fewest faults wins. In the event of a tie, the competitor with the shortest time wins. Two teams with the same number of faults and the same time will be tied in the standings. If pin table standings are at issue (see §50) the competitors in question must participate in a run-off.

§40) The obstacles comprised by a course must be jumped in the correct order. Otherwise a “wrong way” judgement is declared and the team in question is eliminated. For a wrong way judgement to be declared, a rabbit must have jumped an obstacle and touched ground with all four feet.

§41) The start obstacle is not taken into account in judging whether a “wrong way” violation has occurred, but must be cleared in the right direction before a rabbit moves on to the other obstacles on a course and to start the clock. Violations will result in elimination.

§42) The final obstacle must be cleared in the right direction to stop the clock. Clearing the final obstacle before the rest of the obstacles constitutes a “wrong way” violation and results in team elimination. Otherwise, the final obstacle is not taken into account in determining whether a “wrong way” violation has occurred.

§43) One fault will be scored against any team that causes any of the following, provided, however, that no more than one fault may be scored in connection with any particular obstacle:

Upsetting of obstacles: Upset obstacle parts must be replaced in the correct configuration. One fault shall be scored for each obstacle, regardless of the number of bars/beams knocked over, regardless of whether the cause is the handler or the rabbit and regardless of where the team is in the course of a run when the obstacle is upset. For example, pawing the ground, slipping on a carpet or stumbling in such a manner as to cause some part of an obstacle to fall will result in one

fault per obstacle. Going outside the side boundary markings at a water jump is equivalent to upsetting a obstacle.

Lopsided jumps: To clear an obstacle properly, the greater part of the rabbit's body must be between the obstacle supports through the entire length of the obstacle. Otherwise a "lopsided jump" fault is scored. A lopsided jump fault is not scored if a rabbit jumps entirely outside the obstacle supports, in which case the rabbit is regarded as simply having missed the obstacle. Only one fault per obstacle may be scored as a result. A rabbit must clear the entire length of a water jump while remaining within the side boundary markings to avoid a fault. It is irrelevant how far or crooked the rabbit jumps.

Takeoff at obstacles: One fault per obstacle is scored if a rabbit plants one or both hind feet between the bars/beams of a obstacle and takes off from that position, regardless of whether the bars/beams remains in position.

Falling into water jumps: The handler, rabbit or harness/leash disturbs the surface of the water. Whiskers do not count.

Lifting over undisturbed obstacles: A rabbits may be lifted over or around individual obstacles (see §20), which results in one fault per obstacle.

Corrections: Teams receive one fault for three corrections, two faults for six, three faults for nine, etc. This applies to all class competitions except for the mini and easy classes and the high and long jump competitions (except for the elite class).

False starts: A false start (see §38) results in one fault. Repeated false starts in the same round result in elimination.

§44) Individual obstacles that were incorrectly erected, are not upright or have blown down are jumped again after the run, with no account being taken of corrections or time. A rabbit that refuses jump an obstacle again within a reasonable amount of time is assigned a fault in connection with that obstacle.

§45) Jumping course competitions are broken down into the following classes: easy, moderate, advanced, elite, veteran and mini. All rabbits must begin in the light class.

§46) Easy, moderate and advanced classes may be divided into "new" and "ordinary" subclasses. Rabbits that have not previously earned an advancement pin start in the new subclass of the class in question. Any pins won while competing in new subclasses are counted for the purposes of ordinary subclass rankings. Ordinary and new subclasses are to be run on courses of equal difficulty, which need however not be identical in form.

§47) The veteran class is for older rabbits no longer able to compete in their normal ordinary classes. Veteran class competitions follow the same rules as easy class competitions, except that corrections are scored. Rabbits that have attained the age of six years, that have not placed in pin table standings (see §50) during the most recent six month period and that have been classed in the least demanding class in some jumping course discipline are entitled to move to the veteran class. Registering a rabbit in the veteran class, following which any return to an ordinary class is prohibited, is a precondition for the rabbit's competing in the veteran class.

§48) The mini class is for beginners and other rabbits that cannot compete at the level of the easy class. No membership is required. Water jumps may not be used. No rabbit shall be allowed to compete in any other class on the same day it has competed in the mini class. No pins are awarded in the mini class and rabbits that have won a pin in some competition discipline are excluded from competition in this class.

§49) The following conditions apply with respect to the various classes:

Elite class:	A minimum of 12 obstacles (may be reduced to ten due to space limitations in connection with straight course competitions) with a maximum height of 50 cm and a maximum length of 80 cm.
Advanced class:	A minimum of ten obstacles with a maximum height of 45 cm and a maximum length of 80 cm.
Moderate class:	A minimum of ten obstacles with a maximum height of 38 cm and a maximum length of 80 cm.
Easy class:	A minimum of eight obstacles with a maximum height of 30 cm and a maximum length of 45 cm.
Veteran class	A minimum of eight obstacles with a maximum height of 30 cm and a maximum length of 45 cm.
Mini class	Six obstacles with a maximum height of 20 cm and a maximum length of 45 cm.

§50) Rabbits qualify to compete in higher classes in jumping course competitions by collecting advancement pins. Straight and winding course competitions are counted separately. Three pins must be earned in easy class competitions for a rabbit to move from the easy class to the moderate class. Three pins are required to move from the moderate to the advanced class, and five are required to move from the advanced to the elite class. Advancement pins are awarded in accordance with the following table, which also applies to elite class standings:

<i>Number of rabbits starting</i>	<i>Number of advancement pins and placings</i>
3-5	1 pin and placing
6-10	2 pins and placings
11-15	3 pins and placings
16-20	4 pins and placings
21-25	5 pins and placings
26-30	6 pins and placings
31-35	7 pins and placings
36-40	8 pins and placings
41-45	9 pins and placings
46-50	10 pins and placings
51-55	11 pins and placings
56-60	12 pins and placings
Etc.	Etc.

§51) Advancement pins are only awarded to rabbits with an average of two or fewer faults per run. Rabbits with more faults may be entered into the standings according to the pin table (see §50) and receive prizes but shall not be awarded pins. All rabbits with a final result of zero faults receive advancement pins, regardless of their places in the final standings.

§52) No rabbit that advances to a higher class shall be entitled to compete in the higher class in the same competition discipline that same day.

§53) No rabbits that advances to a higher class shall be entitled to compete in any lower class, except with regard to cup competitions, in which teams can continue to compete for cup standings. Such teams shall not, however, be eligible to receive pins in the class in question.

§54) Rabbits participating “outside of competition” are not entitled to receive pins or prizes or to representation in the final standings. Such participation is only permitted in a lower class than a rabbit normally competes in and only if the rabbit is unable, for whatever reason, to jump in its usual class. Rabbits in the veteran class are permitted to jump outside of competition in the easy class. Clubs organising events may choose not to allow participation outside of competition. Rabbits are only permitted to jump outside of competition and then compete in their ordinary classes if two different competition disciplines are involved.

§55) Judges are entitled to have their own rabbits participate outside of competition in the classes that they judge. Any such rabbit’s performance must be judged by some other judge, even where the class in question is the class that the rabbit normally belongs to.

§56) Judging forms:

- A. Initial runs: the number of faults and elapsed times provide the basis for determination. Applies only to the elite class.
- B. Initial runs and run-offs: any two or more teams that score the lowest number of faults participate in the run-off. The combined number of faults and elapsed times from the two runs are computed. Applies only to the elite class.
- C. Initial and final runs: The combined number of faults and elapsed times from the two runs are computed.
- D. Two runs: The combined number of faults and elapsed times from the two runs are computed.
- E. Two runs plus final: The combined number of faults and elapsed times from all of the runs are computed.
- F. Minimum of three runs: The combined number of faults and elapsed times from all of the runs are computed.

§57) Judging forms for jumping course competitions shall be determined in advance. Information shall be made available to participants at the time they enter any event. The C judging form shall be employed unless otherwise stated. Judges shall inform participants in advance of the beginning of each class competition of the judging form to be used, the number of participants, if applicable, that would participate in a final round and the maximum allowed time (see §113).

9. High jump and long jump competitions

§58) All rabbits participating high jump and long jump competition must start in the non-elite class. Upon meeting the requirements for elite class competition by clearing a obstacle 60 cm high (high jump) or 160 cm long (long jump) on three different competition occasions, a rabbit will be advanced to the elite class.

§59) The lowest allowed initial height is 40 cm for non-elite-class high jump competitions and 50 cm for elite-class competitions. The shortest allowed initial distance is 80 cm for non-elite-class long jump competitions and 120 cm for elite class competitions. The same initial height/distance shall apply for all of the rabbits competing in a given class.

§60) The starting demarcation for high jump and long jump competitions shall be at least three metres from the obstacle. Teams must remain behind this demarcation before the judge gives the “you may proceed” starting signal. In the event of any violation, the team in question must return to the demarcation, though without any penalty. High jump obstacles shall have starting demarcations front and back, allowing handlers to choose a direction.

§61) Teams shall have three opportunities, immediately following one another, to clear any height or distance. Once all of the participating teams have jumped, the rabbits that have succeeded in clearing the height/distance in question advance to the next height/distance, with respect to which the same procedures are followed. The

presiding judge shall determine what the next height/distance will be and whether skipping any height/distance shall be permitted.

§62) All bars are counted in scoring upset faults. If a handler upsets an obstacle after the rabbit's clears it and lands with all four paws on the ground, the jump is counted as successful.

§63) Participation outside of competition is not permitted in long jump or high jump competitions except where elite class rabbits participate in non-elite-class competitions due to elite class competition having been cancelled on account of an insufficient number of entered participants.

§64) Switching sides and balking are counted as corrections in high jump and long jump competitions. Corrections are only counted in connection with elite class competition and the first correction at the initial height/distance shall not be counted. Three failed attempts at a given height or distance count as a failure.

§65) A jump broken off by a handler once the rabbit has left the ground is regarded as an attempt.

§66) Pushing off from the rigid front piece or from the space between any two bars with either one or both rear feet is not permitted in long jump competitions. Doing so is called "overstepping" and counts as an attempt.

§67) The standings for high jump and long jump competitions are presented in descending order, one height or distance at a time. The rabbit that clears the highest height or longest distance in the lowest number of attempts wins. If two or more rabbits have performed equally with respect to that height/distance, the previous height/distance is taken into account, etc.

§68) Handlers are entitled to jump their rabbits at lower heights or shorter distances following the close of competition so that the rabbits may finish with a successful jump. This only applies to rabbits that have jumped the height or distance required for advancing to the elite class in non-elite competition or the qualifying height or distance for certificate in elite competition. If an identical obstacle is available beside the competition location, that can be used instead.

§69) Run-offs in high jump and long jump competitions may be necessary to determine the winners among rabbits that are tied in the standings. Elite class high jump and long jump competitions with ten or more starting competitors shall always continue until the best three are identified. The presiding judge chooses the starting height/distance in connection with any run-off. Only one height at a time is counted in connection with run-offs, which are won by the rabbits that succeed in the lowest number of tries, regardless of whether all of the rabbits involved clear the height/distance in question. Only rabbits with exactly the same scores advance through a run-off. Separate records are kept of run-off results.

§70) Winning teams that have not been eliminated for upsetting obstacles may choose to continue to jump at a height/distance of their own choosing.

§71) Five attempts within three minutes are allowed in connection with any attempt at a Swedish or world record. Records can only be set at official competitions.

§72) Specified height of long jump obstacles:

no more than 15 cm or less than 10 cm at the front edge
no more than 20 cm or less than 15 cm at the 100 cm point
no more than 25 cm or less than 20 cm at the 200 cm point
no more than 30 cm or less than 25 cm at the 300 cm point

Arranging events

10. Official events

§73) Official events may only be arranged by any club connected with SKHRF or some SKHRF-approved federation.

§74) Only events of which members have received notice via letters, the “Rikshoppet” newspaper or the website may be counted as official within SKHRF. Other approved federations are responsible for informing their members of official events.

§75) The competition schedules for official SKHRF events may not be amended following the final entry date except with respect to the order in which the various classes are to compete. Any violation entails invalidation of the competition.

§76) Scorekeeping at official events must be based on the approved score sheets of the federation in question. Scores need not be written out by hand but may be entered into computers, as long as the judge approves and manually signs a printout. Competition score sheets are official documents and must be saved by the arranging club for at least five years. Copies of the score sheets from all official elite class SKHRF competitions must be received by the federation within three weeks of the date of competition. The right of the arranging club to arrange elite competitions may be withheld for a month in the event of any violation.

§77) Official class competitions must have at least five starting competitors. Only three starting competitors are required for veteran class competitions. There is no minimum for non-elite class high jump and long jump competitions and mini class competitions. Where there are 1-4 starting competitors in any non-elite high jump or long jump competition, the arranging club may choose to repay all but a maximum of SEK 10 of each starting fee as an alternative to distributing prizes.

§78) No other official SKHRF event may be held during the three days in which the Swedish National Championship is held or on the day of the Annual General Meeting. No other elite class SKHRF competition may be held on the day of the Sveland Cup.

§79) A competition log shall be maintained for every rabbit. Competition logs, including their front covers, must be correctly filled out and turned in prior to rabbits' participating in any competition. In the event that any competition log has not been turned in, is not filled in, is incorrectly filled in, is illegible or pertains to any other than the rabbit in question, the arrangers shall be entitled to void the scores obtained by the rabbit in question. Any decision of an arranging club to void such scores shall be entered in the competition log in question.

§80) Long jump and high jump competitions may not be scheduled for the same day by any club. Only one competition for each class may be scheduled for any given day in these competition disciplines. Long jump and high jump competitions should be the last class competitions on any day of competition.

§81) A maximum of two jumping course competitions in any given class, regardless of the competition discipline, may be scheduled for any given day of competition.

§82) Competitions shall be held under daylight conditions or in well-lit premises. Class competitions shall be cancelled in the event that it becomes dark in the course of any day of competition. In the case of multi-day events, such cancelled class competitions may be held on another day of competition following that that day's regularly scheduled class competitions. The judging form can even be changed to judgement form A if this facilitates matters (this applies in exceptional cases, in which §57 and §75 can be ignored). Fees must be repaid to all participants in the event that a class is cancelled in its entirety.

11. Entry and fees

§83) Rabbits can only be entered in class competitions that they are entitled to compete in as of the entry date. Arranging clubs are required to amend any entry in the event that a rabbit that advances to another class prior to the start in question.

§84) Each club determines the applicable entry/late entry and entry fee conditions, with the qualification that information about these conditions must be made available to participants who contact the club. Registration fees must always be refundable in the event that a veterinary or medical certificate establishing that the team in question is unable to compete is presented or if the rabbit entered passes away.

§85) The composition of any entered team may not be changed without the club's approval. Any unapproved change in the composition of a team entails that the team in question shall not be entitled to start.

§86) Rabbits must be registered with SKHRF or some SKHRF-approved federation to compete in advanced or elite class jumping course or high jump or long jump competitions. A rabbit may only be actively registered in one federation. No rabbit entered is entitled to start in any of these classes if entered without a registration number, unless the rabbit has yet to be assigned a registration number. Rabbits must furthermore be registered as belonging to the elite class to participate in elite class competitions. Otherwise, any certificates or points received are subject to retroactive revocation.

§87) For a rabbit to compete under the name of a rabbit yard, the yard must be registered with SKHRF or some SKHRF-approved federation.

§88) Rabbits participating outside of competition are entered in the usual way. The fee may not exceed SEK 10. All rabbits participating outside of competition must be listed on the score sheet.

§89) Federation members must have easy access to information about where competitions are to be held and the time of the first start. With regard to major events, letters/e-mails containing necessary information shall be sent to all participants in due time.

§90) Assuming that the most expensive prizes on the prize table are to be distributed, their value should total at least 40% of the receipts for the class in question. The value of a prize shall be equal to the amount paid for the prize by the club. A reasonable value shall be estimated in the case of donated/sponsor prizes.

§91) Any competition for a travelling prize shall comply with the rules for the travelling prize in question. Competing for any travelling prize whose associated rules have not been approved by SKHRF is not permitted.

§92) Any competitor unable to be present when prizes are distributed is entitled to have some other party accept any prizes on the competitor's behalf, provided that the relevant arrangements are made in advance and reported to those in charge of the competition. In other cases, the arranging club must approve any after-the-fact receipt of a prize.

12. Competition courses

§93) Competitors with complaints about a course may not themselves make any changes to it without permission, but must turn to the relevant judge or competition arranger. Violations will be subject to warnings followed by disqualification.

§94) Any participant wishing to walk a course at any time other than in connection with his or her own start or to fix upset obstacles following another team's run must first ask permission of the presiding judge. Violations will be subject to warnings followed by disqualification.

§95) Competition courses shall be appropriately enclosed/marked. This applies as well to warm up areas. The distance between the obstacles on any course and the enclosure must be at least two metres. This distance may be slightly reduced if a competition location is narrow, although not in connection with double courses.

§96) Winding courses shall involve bends that are as gentle as possible and that provide sufficient space for handlers to move forward on both sides of all of the obstacles. Courses shall be logical and easy for both handlers and rabbits to follow. Numbered signs must be visible at all obstacles. Compressing courses into insufficiently large areas is not permitted. Course areas should be at least 64 sq m, not including enclosures.

§97) Competitions courses shall be prepared on suitable non-slip surfaces. Any lawns used for competition locations should be as level and closely cut as possible, without any large holes. Carpeting must be used to cover any hard surface such as asphalt, whether indoors or outdoors, on which a competition is held. The carpeting must in such event be wider than the obstacles. Riding schools and gravel surfaces are also approved to serve as competition locations.

§98) A warm up area shall always be included, and shall consist of at least three obstacles in the case of jumping course competitions and at least one obstacle in the case of high jump or long jump competitions. In general, the same rules apply for warm up areas as for the courses proper. The distance between obstacles shall be the same as on courses.

§99) The distance between any two obstacles on a straight course should be the same. This distance should be at least 250 cm, regardless of the class. The distance between two obstacles should be measured from the first obstacle's back-most bar/beam to the second obstacle's forward-most bar/beam. The distance between the start obstacle and the first obstacle on any course must be at least 150 cm., the same applies in regard to the last obstacle on the course and the final obstacle.

§100) Course decorations may not be of such a character or location as hinders accessibility by participants or presents an objectionable appearance. Decorations may only be placed to the side of obstacles. No objects may be placed in water jumps. Upsetting a decoration does not constitute upsetting an obstacle.

13. Obstacles

§101) All obstacles must be set up so as to stand in a stable manner yet be fully capable of being upset. Bars and beams must sit unattached against lateral supports. Supports must be adjusted, for example by being raised in an appropriate way, in the event that any bar or beam becomes stuck. Bars and beams can be moved sideways on the supports without falling down.

§102) If bars or beams are of various colours, the same colour order should be used throughout any round of competition.

§103) The following apply for all of the obstacles used in any competition:

They shall be constructed of a suitable material and must not have any sharp objects such as nails sticking out.

They may not give off a strong odour of cleaning solvent or paint.

Rabbits must easily be able to understand how to clear them.

They should be stable enough that bars and beams do not fall off in a light wind or due to ground vibrations

The highest point on the rear support must extend at least 3 cm above the highest bar/beam. Side markings of some sort must be used in connection with level water jumps.

The distance between the ground/floor and bars/beams may not exceed 8 cm at the highest point.

Bars and beams must be capable of being upset from both directions. No fixed parts are allowed, except for water jumps and the front pieces of high jump and long jump obstacles.

All bars/beams must be able to fall both backwards and forwards all the way to the ground/floor without hindrance. Bars must be at least 18 mm thick.

§104) Obstacles are to be measured in the following way:

Height – the vertical distance from the ground/floor to the highest point on the uppermost bar/beam. Where the competition surface is uneven, measurements are somewhat arbitrary, insofar as measurements should preferably be made where there are no dips or rises.

Length – the horizontal distance between the forward-most bar's/beam's front edge and the back-most bar's/beam's back edge in the case of an obstacle/combination obstacle.

Width – the smallest distance between the interior sides of the supports.

§105) The minimum width is 55 cm for course obstacles and 100 cm for high jump and long jump obstacles. Bars longer than 100 cm are not permitted on any obstacle.

§106) Initial and final obstacles shall follow all of the other rules in regard to obstacle design comprised by the regulations and may not be higher than 15 cm.

§107) Water jumps shall be 5-10 cm high and at least 3 cm deep and be essentially filled to the top with water. Water jumps are not allowed if temperatures are below 0 degrees C.

§108) Long jump obstacles must be clearly marked along the sides in a way that cannot cause injury to rabbits while making it easier for rabbits to understand how the obstacles are to be cleared.

§109) The following conditions apply for combination obstacles:

The distance between obstacles may not be so large that rabbits might think that it is permissible to land between them.

Combining water jumps with other water jumps is not allowed.

The risk that a rabbit that jumps straight over a combination lands on an obstacle support must be excluded. Accordingly, the widest obstacle must always be placed furthest back.

In general, the same rules apply as for regular obstacles.

14. Judges and timekeepers

§110) Only judges who are licensed by SKHRF or some SKHRF-approved federation may judge official class competitions. Arranging clubs must provide functionaries to assist the presiding judge. No judge, timekeeper or scorekeeper may participate in or be replaced during any ongoing class competition.

§111) Any presiding judge who feels unsure of his or her judgement may confer with the other functionaries. Other judges present at the location may subsequently be consulted, followed by the handler in question, other participants and the public. The same applies if two judges who are judging together disagree.

§112) Presiding judges are responsible for ensuring that the regulations are followed and are entitled to cancel any class they are to judge if it is impossible for any reason to follow the regulations. Such instances shall be reported to the federation. This also applies if another judge present at the event permits class competitions that violate the regulations.

§113) Presiding judges are responsible for the condition of the course and may rearrange it or replace obstacles if they so wish. The presiding judge shall approve the course prior to the start of any class competition. The same applies to any additional rounds. The presiding judge shall decide, in consultation with the arranging club, whether the judging form and/or the approximate number of competitors that will advance to the finals will be changed.

§114) The presiding judge shall report the number of faults as soon as a team finishes a round. Upset obstacles may only be set aright once this has been established.

§115) There must always be at least two timekeepers, one of which shall be the chief timekeeper. The presiding judge may serve as a timekeeper but may not be the chief timekeeper. If both clocks stop or cease to function during a run, the time shall, in the first instance, be estimated on the basis of the time elapsed before the clocks stopped. In the second instance, the rabbit shall once again run the course, or some part of it, against the clock without the number of faults being counted.

§116) The recommended and longest allowed maximum time is two minutes for all disciplines, with the exception of winding course competitions, where the longest allowed maximum time is three minutes. The shortest allowed maximum time is one minute for all disciplines. Exceeding the maximum time results in elimination. Participants shall be informed by a judge or timekeeper when 30 and 10 seconds of the maximum time remain.

§117) Clocks are started when a rabbit clears or upsets the start obstacle and stopped when the rabbit clears the finish obstacle in the right direction. In the case of jumping course competitions, no clock used for timekeeping may be reset to zero until the time has been entered on the score sheet. With high jump and long jump competitions, the clocks are started when a team crosses the starting demarcation and stopped when the rabbit lands on the other side of the obstacle. If a team needs additional attempts at the same height/distance, timing is restarted once the obstacle is set aright and the person who has set the obstacle aright has left the competition location or when the team begins its next attempt.

§118) The presiding judge may choose to stop the clock and break off a run in progress if anything hinders the team in question from continuing or if a risk exists that the rabbit would be injured. Once the problem is cleared up, the run may continue and timing resume. This should be avoided to the greatest extent possible.

§119) It rests with the presiding judge to decide when any competing team is to incur a correction. The judge must inform the handler of any corrections incurred while the run is in progress.

15. Championship events

§120) Each club may establish its own rules in connection with its club championships. Elite class competitions must be held. The rules must be approved by the federation before they are adopted.

§121) Participation in the Swedish National Championship is conditioned on having been a member of SKHRF for at least four months at the date of competition.

§122) Rabbits may only compete in Swedish National Championships with their registered handlers. Rabbits must have been registered as active within SKHRF together with the handler in question for at least four months at the date of competition. Any rabbit entered that does not fulfil this requirement shall not be entitled to compete.

§123) The Swedish National Championship is arranged twice per year by SKHRF-associated clubs – with straight course and long jump competition in the spring and winding course and high jump competition in the autumn. A master competition is held in each discipline.

§124) The E judging form shall be used for Swedish National Championship straight and winding course competitions. The initial height for high jump competitions shall be 60 cm. The initial distance for long jump competitions shall be 140 cm. Judges shall be appointed by SKHRF.

16. Titles

§125) For a certificate to be awarded in connection with any official elite class competition, at least 10 rabbits registered as elite class in the discipline in question must participate. The certificate shall be awarded to the winning team, or to the highest placing rabbit registered as elite class if the winner was not registered as elite class at the date of competition. If there are 50 rabbits competing, certificates shall be awarded to the first and second place finishers. The third place finisher shall also receive a certificate if there are 100 rabbits competing. Certificates are awarded to the three highest placing finishers at Swedish National Championship competitions. A rabbit must jump at least 70 cm high in a high jump competition or 180 cm in a long jump competition to be awarded a certificate

§126) Any rabbit that has earned three certificates in the same discipline at two or more different clubs receives the title of “Champion” and may add this title to the name under which it competes as soon as all of the certificates have been approved. Qualifying as “Champion” in two disciplines earns the title of “Great Champion”; qualifying in three disciplines earns the title of “Super Champion”; and qualifying in four disciplines earns the title of “Grand Champion”. Any rabbit the name of which contains any of these words may not compete under that name at any official competition if it has not earned a title.

17. Glossary

Approved harness and leash – approved harnesses are those that do not cause choking as would a collar. Approved leashes must be more than a metre long and may not be retractable. Leashes must be attached at the belly straps of harnesses.

Competition course – The course itself with the obstacles and tracks that the rabbit is supposed to follow. The course area refers to the entire area within the enclosure.

Corrections in jumping course competitions – The handler lifts or guides the rabbit into position for another attempt. This applies equally to sideways moves. A handler forcefully resists a rabbit’s inclination towards the next obstacle, including if the rabbit has left the ground. A handler either allows a rabbit under its own inclination or guides the rabbit to go in a backwards direction on the course for a new attempt.

Current event – The event in progress, regardless of whether it involves one or more days.

Current round of competition – The round in progress. With high jump and long jump competitions, this means the current height or distance.

Disqualification – The handler in question and all of his or her rabbits, are ejected from competition. Results already established are also struck from the records. A participant can be disqualified retroactively if a violation comes to light. Participants must be expressly informed if they are disqualified.

Elimination – The team in question is removed from the current round of competition. If this round is the initial round in any class competition, the team is excluded from the standings. If it is the final, second or third round, etc., in a class competition, the team is only eliminated from that round and is listed in the standings after all of the competitors that complete the round. In high jump and long jump competitions, elimination is counted as if the rabbit in question was removed from competition for upsetting obstacles. Participants must be expressly informed if they are eliminated.

Final – Involves the best rabbits from the initial round(s) jumping one more time. All participants with zero faults must be allowed in any final, and at least as many as the number of placings/pins.

Official – All rabbit jumping activity approved by SKHRF.

Presiding judge – The judge responsible for the class competition under way, about to start or just finished, i.e., the judge currently in charge.

Start markings – May consist, for example, of two obstacles placed at a distance from one another without bars/beams to indicate an invisible line. Used only in high jump and long jump competitions.

Warning – A sharp rebuke, almost always preceded by a milder rebuke, from a judge to a participant that is written up and reported to the federation. Participants must be explicitly informed if they receive a warning.

Violation of the regulations

Participants who violate the regulations will be penalised in accordance with the provisions of the present paragraph. In most cases, all of the judges at a competition location may penalise participants who violate the regulations. If this does not occur, participants that discover that any violation has occurred should speak with a judge on location to address the problem. In the second instance, if the problem persists, the violation should be reported to the federation, which will decide what measures should be taken.

Participants who discover that an arranging club is violating the regulations should in the first instance approach the club directly and in the second instance inform the federation. Serious violations should always be reported to the federation.